

Hafa Adai!

LibDay Royal Court raises over \$45K. **PAGE 2**

'OAG has marching orders to avoid govt from paying victims.' **PAGE 3**

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 140

www.saipantribune.com

TUESDAY JULY 17, 2018

www.facebook.com/saipantribune

75¢

3rd drowning at Lau Lau Bay

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

One of four diving students accompanied by an instructor reportedly panicked and drowned at Lau Lau Bay Dive Spot last Saturday afternoon.

» **Tourist is 6th drowning victim on Saipan this year**
» **2 others swept by waves and couldn't be located**

Department of Public Safety spokesperson Jacqueline Rae said yesterday that the victim, a 56-year-old Chinese

male tourist, was pronounced dead by hospital personnel at the Commonwealth Health Center's emergency room.

The tourist is the third drowning victim at Lau Lau Bay and the sixth on Saipan this year. Two other tourists

had been swept by waves and could not be located.

Rae said DPS dispatch re-
See 3RD on Page 4

Same-sex tourism still all the rage in CNMI

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Same-sex tourism that flourished in the CNMI back in 2016 is still all the rage and only continues to grow.

Since 2015 when same-sex marriage was legalized

in the U.S. and its territories, there has been a significant jump in the number of same-sex marriages on Saipan, majority of which involved Chinese tourists.

Today, Chinese tourists still continue to venture out to the

See SAME on Page 4

Bill includes CNMI to AMBER system

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A bill that includes three U.S. territories into a nationwide system for locating missing children has been introduced on the U.S. House of Repre-

sentatives.

Guam Delegate Madeleine Bordallo (D-GU) introduced over the weekend H.R. 6350 to incorporate Guam, the CNMI, and American Samoa into the America's Missing: Broadcast

See BILL on Page 4



McDonald's Saipan free from salad recall

By **JON PEREZ**
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

McDonald's Saipan is not affected by last week's recall of its salads from 3,000 of its

restaurant franchises particularly in midwestern states in the mainland after a parasite that causes a gastrointestinal illness was found.

McDonald's Saipan gener-

al manager Joe Ayuyu Jr. told *Saipan Tribune* that the community should not be bothered by the news and assured the community that the salads that are sold in the Middle

Road branch is free of the recall. It doesn't serve salads at its Garapan branch.

"We're not affected [by] the recall. Only McDonald's
See RECALL on Page 4

JON PEREZ
McDonald's Middle Road staffer Melba Camacho prepares one of the salads that they offer to local customers before being served. McDonald's Saipan assured the public that their salads are free of the recall that occurred in 14 states in the mainland.

INSIDE



LOCAL

Add "Best Eagle Ray Watching Spot" to the growing list of international accolades for The Marianas.

PAGE 13



NATION

A wildfire that killed a California firefighter grew quickly and forced the closure of a key route into Yosemite National Park.

PAGE 16



OVERDRIVE

The first challenge with the 2018 Ford EcoSport was to figure out how to get into the cargo area.

PAGE 19



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440

FAX: 235-3740

EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com



GET YOUR FREE COPY NOW!

TAGA SPORTS JULY - SEPTEMBER 2018 EDITION

Local



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

The Liberation Day Royal Court poses for a photo with the Liberation Day Committee during their check presentation at the Saipan Mayor's Office yesterday.

LibDay Royal Court raises over \$45K

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2018 Liberation Day Royal Court raised a total of over \$45,000 in Liberation Day raffle ticket sales.

Yesterday, Liberation Day committee chair Joe Ayuyu, Royal Court committee chair Monique Boyer Sablan, and Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang awarded the Liberation Day candidates their 20 percent cut in ticket sales.

According to Sablan, the candidates were able to raise a total of \$45,258 by the coronation tally cut off date, which was June 30.

During the check presentation, the Liberation Day committee awarded a total of \$9,051 to the five Liberation Day Royal Court candidates.

Ayuyu said that, in behalf of the committee, he is thankful and proud of what this year's royal court was able to achieve.

"I just want to say thank you...to the contestants...it takes a lot of guts for them to do what [they] were doing. During [their] age, I don't think I would've ventured out in the same way [they] so [they've] really accomplished a lot," he said.

During his brief remarks, Ayuyu encouraged the candidates to continue their path to become leaders someday.

"This is one of your steps toward a leadership role that you all have the potential to achieve so we encourage you to continue...get involved

with the community and whatever activities you can get involved in and continue your path to become a leader since you already took the first step...you can do a lot more than you think," he said.

Apatang said that the candidates did extremely well compared to previous years despite the fact that their group was significantly smaller.

"I want to congratulate [them] because what [they] did was very gutsy for their age. This is just the beginning..." he said.

Sablan said that at the end of the 2018 Royal Court journey, she successfully achieved what she had planned for the candidates and that was to establish a lifetime friendship between the five of them.

"We had a lot of fun together...that was my goal for this whole thing. It wasn't just to raise money and do something for the community, but to give them a chance to make new friends and to start a life time sister-hood," she said.

Sablan said that the candidates would continue to sell raffle tickets starting tonight at the resumption of the Liberation Day festivities.

The raffle drawing will be on July 21 during the final night of the festival and individuals have the chance to win up to \$10,000.

This year's Royal Court queen and princesses were Brinae Jessilyn Cruz, Taylor Jean Chong Sablan, Connie Blass Mendiola, Lovely Joey Loyola, and Milagro Omar Palacios.

MLSC seeks donations for school supplies project

Micronesian Legal Services Corp. is accepting cash or in-kind donations as part of its annual project to provide school supplies to needy children in the CNMI.

New school supplies or cash donations may be dropped off at MLSC's Marianas Office in the VS Sablan Building, Chalan Piao (same building as the Subway sandwich shop).

Checks may be dropped off or mailed to us at PO Box 500826, Saipan, MP 96950

or you may call MLSC at 234-7729 and they will pick-up donations.

MLSC hopes to deliver at least 100 new backpacks with supplies to children in low-income households. MLSC identifies needy children from its work and from referrals made by Karidat Social Services and others.

MLSC is a 501(c)(3) organization, so your generous donations are tax-deductible. (PR)

FREE

TFC & KAPATID TV

When you bundle your Home Phone,
Online 20.0 & TiVo Broadcast Basic.

for as low as

\$99

Per month



Add a Mobile line with 20GB of data,
Unlimited local calls and SMS for \$50 additional

488-CARE | docomopacific.com

*24 month agreement required. Some conditions apply.

ON MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CASES

'OAG has marching orders to avoid govt from paying victims'

Attorneys of the Office of the Attorney General have marching orders not to do justice, but to help the CNMI government to avoid paying any claims from victims of medical malpractice, according to former Saipan representative Ana S. Teregeyo.

Teregeyo said the attorneys who have taken medical malpractice cases in the past have to front the money for medical experts and then defend against the salaried lawyers of the OAG.

Teregeyo said until just recently, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. or the CNMI has refused to pay the judgments that the few victims who have sued were able to obtain.

The result, she said, is private attorneys in the CNMI all turn down plaintiffs who have been injured at the Commonwealth Health Center.

The former lawmaker expressed how difficult it is to proceed with her lawsuit against the government without a lawyer in her response to the Commonwealth's motion to dismiss her case.

Teregeyo is suing the CNMI government for negligence arising from the same allegations in her 2nd Amended complaint when her left knee and leg became infected, necessitating five more surgeries and an artificial knee replacement.

The government, through OAG, asked the Superior

Court to dismiss her complaint.

In response to the motion, Teregeyo said she is one such plaintiff who has had to proceed pro se because no attorney will take her case for economic reasons.

Teregeyo said acting by herself and with limited assistance from attorneys, she has tried her best to serve the government. She said she should be allowed greater latitude to correct the deficiencies in service of process.

Teregeyo said the CNMI can be sued for medical malpractice conducted by CHCC. She added that her claims are not barred by the statute of limitations.

She said she sent the gov-

ernment the complaint before she filed it with the court in anticipation of a response from the OAG to her claim within 90 days.

Teregeyo said after all, the government had insisted that her first complaint should be dismissed for not giving the Attorney General 90 days to consider accepting the claim.

She said the AG just ignored her claim.

Teregeyo said she did not serve process on directly on the OAG because she did not understand that that was required.

Teregeyo said she believes in good faith that the government had already been served with the letter dated Feb. 5, 2016.

She said knowing that the attorney for CHCC was an assistant attorney general, and that CHCC is part of the CNMI, she thought she was serving the party who needed to be served.

Teregeyo said considering that she is a pro se litigant and the service of process is a technical requirement that is not familiar with her, she requests the court for additional time to perfect any defects in the service of process.

She said based on the status

conference on Jan. 12, 2016, she understood she should sue the government instead of CHCC and therefore, she amended the complaint and named the Commonwealth as the defendant.

Teregeyo said she promptly filed the action against the government in accordance with the statute of limitations.

She said even if she should amend the complaint and rename the defendant, the amendment should relate back to the promptly filed pleading without being barred by the statute of limitation.

She said CNMI law imposed a two-year statute of limitation on medical malpractice suits.

However, she said, the statute language "does not unambiguously point to either the occurrence date or the discovery date as the moment when a cause of action accrues."

She said she promptly filed the complaint against the government on May 9, 2016.

She said the CNMI was actually on notice of the claim on Oct. 26, 2015 when the first complaint was filed.

Teregeyo alleged that as a result of gross negligence she almost lost her leg. She

claimed that only because she had the means to go off-island and obtain professional care that her leg was saved.

The former lawmaker said what happened to her at CHC should never happen to anyone.

In the government's motion to dismiss, OAG Civil Division chief Christopher M. Timmons said the complaint should be dismissed for insufficiency of service or process.

Timmons said Teregeyo failed to properly serve the Commonwealth pursuant to Rule 4 of the Commonwealth Rules of Civil Procedure.

Accordingly, he said, default is improper and Teregeyo's claims instead must be dismissed for insufficiency of service of process.

Teregeyo named the CNMI as the only defendant in her new complaint that she filed in the Superior Court in May 2016 pro se or without a lawyer. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

OPA: DPS resolved 1 of 2 audit findings

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Public Auditor, in a report submitted to the presiding officers of the Legislature and other department heads, noted that the evidence facility of the Department of Public Safety remain inadequate.

In a July 2, 2018 letter addressed to Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan), House minority leader Rep. Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), Department of Finance Secretary Larissa C. Larson, and Special Assistant to the Office of Management and Budget Virginia C. Villagomez, OPA noted that the physical security of the DPS evidence facility remain inadequate.

The OPA in a previous audit finding recommends to DPS that the management needed to ensure that ongoing improvements continue and that funding sources are sufficient and dedicated to achieve the goal.

On a May 9, 2018 commu-

nication to OPA, DPS stated that evidence remains to be stored at the temporary evidence facility.

"DPS has not begun renovations to the original evidence facility until funding can be obtained from [Federal Emergency Management Agency] under the Public Assistance Grant," DPS reportedly told OPA.

DPS reported further stated that FEMA has already begun the renovation process for other facilities and will begin renovations at the original evidence facility once finished.

In response to the communication, OPA said that while DPS has made substantial improvements to the original facility prior to the damages cause by the ravage of Typhoon Soudelor in 2015, they are cognizant that renovations to the original evidence facility is dependent on the availability of funds, a matter that is out of DPS' influence.

Despite the roadblock, OPA

» **DPS' evidence facility remain inadequate**

said the recommendation would remain unresolved until renovations have been made and all evidence is moved back to the original evidence facility.

DPS did manage to resolve one of two previous OPA audit findings. OPA in a previous audit noted that firearms seized and weapons submitted for safekeeping are "inadequately documented" and in some cases, "records are non-existent."

DPS was recommended to have the evidence custodian continuously update the inventory as conducted by OPA. OPA further recommended that seized firearms that are not considered evidence should be stored in the DPS armory.

OPA determined that the recommendation was resolved after conducting a site visit to the evidence facility.

"...[OPA] confirmed that non-evidence firearms are separately maintained from other items within the temporary evidence facility," OPA noted in the report.

US Coast Guard suspends search for possible mariners in distress near Kona Airport, Big Island

HONOLULU, Hawaii—The Coast Guard has suspended the search for a possible boater in distress near the Kona Airport on the Big Island, Saturday night, pending further developments.

After approximately eight hours of searching following a received mayday call, the case was suspended with no signs of boaters in distress and no reports of overdue swimmers or boaters in the area.

At approximately 12:30pm, Saturday, Sector Honolulu watchstanders received a mayday call over channel 16 and used the Rescue 21 system to track the location of the call to approximately 4 miles

northwest of Kona Airport.

The search was conducted by the Coast Guard, local emergency services and units involved in the Rim of the Pacific exercises off of Hawaii.

Involved in the search were:

■ An MH-Dolphin helicopter crew from Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point

■ The crew of the Coast Guard Gutter Joseph Gerzcek (WPC 1126)

■ A Hawaii County Fire Department Air 1 helicopter crew

■ A U.S. Navy P-3 Orion aircrew

■ The crew of the Royal Australian Navy HMAS Success (OR 304)

Anyone with information regarding the mayday call is asked to contact the Sector Honolulu command center at 808-842-2600. (PR)

WORLD MASSAGE
Special Local Price
\$15⁰⁰ Body Massage 60 minutes
\$23⁰⁰ Body & Feet Massage 90 Minutes
Business Hours: 10:00AM-1:00AM • Monday-Sunday
For more information, please Call 234-1504 and ask for Wang
Located in Beach Road, Susupe, 2nd Floor, Joeten Commercial Bldg. next to Zoom Chicken

QQ RENT A CAR
Starting as low as... **\$29.99**
for a 3rd Party Insurance
Call: 233-8855, 483-8866 or 233-8866
\$100 Security Deposit Required
Garapan • Susupe
Some conditions may apply

CLUB 88
THE BEST LITTLE GAMING CLUB IN SAIPAN
IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE ITS
3 JULY
Super Draw
Player Promotion
WITH \$500 MIDNIGHT CASH DRAWS EVERY WEDNESDAY TO SATURDAY NIGHT EACH WEEK WITH OVER \$18,000 IN CASH AND PRIZES TO BE WON BY LUCKY CLUB 88 PLAYERS, AND
SPECIAL \$2,500 3RD BIRTHDAY MIDNIGHT MEGA DRAW
ON TUESDAY, 17TH OF JULY
WITH BIRTHDAY CAKE FOR ALL PLAYERS!
COME PLAY TODAY FOR A CHANCE TO TO BE A BIG WINNER!
OPEN: SUNDAY TO THURSDAY 12:00 PM TO 4:00AM | FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 24 HOURS
OCEAN VIEW HOTEL GARAPAN SAIPAN

Girl, 3, suffers multiple injuries allegedly from guardian's biting, beating

A 3-year-old girl suffered multiple injuries after her legal guardian allegedly bit her and struck her with a wooden backscratcher and large glass

cup at a residence in Chalan Kanoa last week.

According to a treating physician at the Commonwealth Health Center, the right side of

the girl's head had a puncture wound, and that she had red and bruising underneath all fingernails, and redness and bruising on both large toes.

As of 2pm last Friday, the girl was still under evaluation and treatment at CHC, police said.

The legal guardian, Vicenta

Veronica Igisomar, 44, was arrested last Saturday and taken before the Superior Court yesterday for bail hearing on charges of child abuse.

Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio imposed a \$25,000 cash bail on Igisomar and set the preliminary hearing for July 24 at 1:30pm.

Police detective Flora Danica B. Aguon stated in her report that last Thursday night she was called about a child abuse incident and proceeded to CHC emergency room where she met with a police officer.

Aguon said the officer informed her that she had a reason to believe that the 3-year-old girl, who was taken to CHC's emergency room, was abused by her guardian and that it was the biological parents who discovered the abuse.

The officer stated that the guardian, Igisomar, fled the scene before his arrival and that the girl was transported to CHC for further treatment.

Aguon said the girl's mother stated that she and her husband were walking by Igisomar's residence when they heard a little girl's scream and cry.

The parents went to the house and the mother asked Igisomar, who has been the guardian for the past year, if her daughter was fine.

Igisomar stated that she spanked the girl with a backscratcher and that she can take her back if she wants.

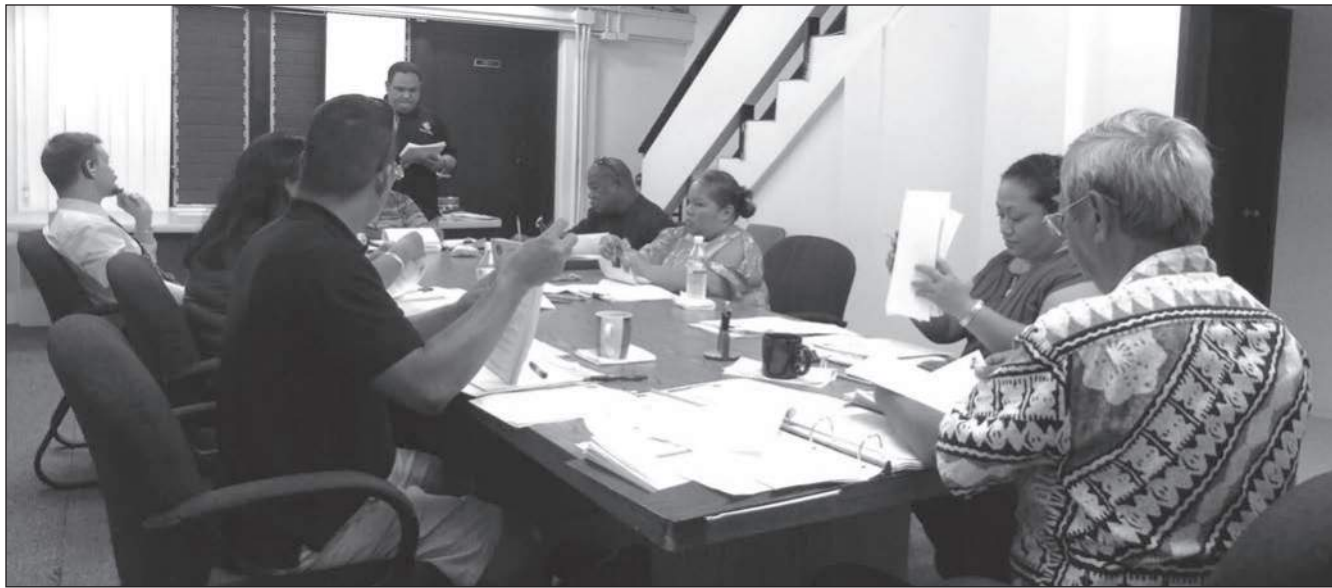
The mother further observed that her daughter was crying and bleeding on both her toes and that she had a cut on her head area.

The mother then called 911.

Aguon said the girl stated that Igisomar bit all of her fingers and big toes.

The girl said Igisomar also hit her back with a wooden scratcher and hit her head with a large glass cup.

Igisomar also allegedly spread the girl's legs hard while the child was lying down on the bed. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



'PROBLEMATIC ISSUES'

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Commonwealth Election Commission election register clerk Robin Sablan discusses the case of over 13 individuals whose registration of affidavits have "problematic issues" during CEC's board meeting last Friday afternoon.

RECALL

From Page 1

in the 14 states, primarily around the Midwest, were affected by the voluntary move by McDonald's to suspend salads from their menu," said Ayuyu.

The fastfood giant stopped the sale of all of its salads in 14 states last Friday after more than 50 people complained of being sick allegedly due to eating salads bought from McDonald's restaurants in 14 states.

McDonald's franchises in

Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Ohio, and Missouri including Montana, Kentucky, and West Virginia were affected by the salad recall.

Ayuyu said that the American fastfood giant is also coordinating with their franchisees in the said 14 states until they can find a new supplier of their lettuce.

He added that lettuce that McDonald's Saipan uses for its salads are from California, particularly in the cities of Vernon and Salinas. "McDonald's Saipan is safe and not af-

fectured. Since our lettuce originates from Vernon and Salinas in California."

They are also supporting the local farmers and businesses with the other vegetables and ingredients are bought locally.

He added that salads sold on Saipan are made from scratch in their two stores with cleanliness and the safety of their consumers the number one priority.

Reports released by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention cyclosporiasis caused the illness of the people who allegedly consumed the salad. Cyclospora is a

non-lethal gastrointestinal illness caused by parasites found from feces.

Diarrhea, vomiting, and fatigue are the symptoms of cyclospora where the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is singling out the lettuce allegedly found in the salads as the possible cause of the illness.

The FDA, on its website, said they—including the CDA and state and local officials—are already investigating the multistate outbreak of cyclospora that is being linked to the salad from the popular fastfood chain.

BILL

From Page 1

Emergency Response System, or AMBER System.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) and American Samoa Delegate Aumua Amata C. Radewagen (R-AS) co-sponsor the bill.

"The AMBER alert system mobilizes law enforcement and the whole community in the case of missing, abducted,

or exploited children. We want that protection for our children in the Pacific islands, too. It can save lives," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

"The bill authorizes federal funding to extend the national AMBER alert system to the Marianas, Guam, and American Samoa. And it is supported by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children," he continued.

According to the official website for the system, AM-

BER is utilized in all 50 states including the District of Columbia, Indian country, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and 22 other countries as well.

The website noted that as of March 2018, the system has assisted in the recovery of a total of 924 children.

The AMBER alert system was created in 1996 when Dallas-Fort Worth broadcasters teamed up with local police to develop early warning systems for missing children.

The system was named after Amber Hagerman, who was kidnapped while riding her bicycle in Arlington, Texas before brutally murdered.

On April 30, 2003, former U.S. president George W. Bush enacted the PROTECT Act, which sets guidelines for missing children alert announcements. H.R. 6350 amends the legislation to include the CNMI, American Samoa, and Guam into the AMBER system.

3RD

From Page 1

ceived a call about a drowning incident at Lau Lau Beach Dive Spot Saturday at 2:13pm.

Police officers responded and upon arrival at the beach, they observed a man performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on the unresponsive victim.

Rae said investigation showed that at 1pm that day, a dive instructor from Dive Wish arrived at the beach with four students, including the victim.

At 1:40pm, the group began with their dive. While

returning to the surface, the victim reportedly panicked and removed his regulator from his mouth.

The instructor placed the regulator back in the victim's mouth and instructed him to breathe slowly and calm down.

While trying to regulate the victim's breathing, the instructor slowly returned to the surface with him.

Once at the surface, the victim removed his regulator and was breathing heavily. He suddenly vomited.

At that time, the victim's body became stiff, his lips turned blue, prompting the instructor to apply CPR.

The instructor continued the CPR until Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services emergency medical technicians arrived at the scene. Medics transported the victim to CHC's emergency room, where he was pronounced dead.

Last June 26, a 69-year-old Chinese woman reportedly drowned while swimming on Managaha Island.

Last May 6, a 62-year-old Chinese woman reportedly drowned at the Grotto Dive Site in Marpi when she slipped on a rock and fell into the water while about to scuba dive along with seven other divers and an instructor.

Last April 17, a 53-year-old Japanese male reportedly drowned while diving at Lau Lau Bay.

Last March 9, Tian Tao, a 32-year-old Chinese male tourist drowned while swimming also at Lau Lau Bay.

Last Feb. 23, a 25-year-old Korean male tourist who was swimming with three companions was swept by a wave at Forbidden Island in Kagman. Search and rescue teams backed up by a Navy helicopter failed to locate the body.

Last Jan. 13, a Korean tourist drowned while her husband was swept by waves and could not be found at Forbidden Island.

SAME

From Page 1

CNMI to tie the knot, but so have other ethnicities such as Russians, Korean, and even Bangladeshi.

According to data obtained from the Saipan Mayor's Office, there have been a total of 117 marriage licenses issued from January to June of this year. Of the 117 licenses, 90 were issued to same sex couples.

From the 90 same sex couples that received marriage licenses from the Saipan Mayor's Office, 61 were female couples and 29 were male couples and majority were Chinese tourists.

According to a previous interview with Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, he had the privilege to marry a same sex couple from Bangladesh this year on top of the numerous Chinese couples he performed marriages for.

Same sex marriage continues to thrive also despite the recent increase in marriage license fees that was implemented early this year.

According to a previous article on the *Saipan Tribune*, the increase is embodied in House Bill 20-128 that was passed into law in mid-April 2018.

Accordingly, nonresidents will now be charged \$250 to obtain a marriage license and residents will be charged \$130.

All revenue raised from marriage license fees will go to the Saipan Mayor's Office account.

Apatang says the change has been nothing but positive for his office.

Apatang said his office has seen an increase in the number

of marriages they perform in a day and the community has been receptive to the increases.

"As a matter of fact, we increased the number of marriages every day. Instead of three and four every day, we increased it from five to six; that's more revenue for us," he said.

Apatang said the change has been a long time coming. "I think it is about time that we raised the fees for marriages. We perform a lot of marriages here in the mayor's office and it was only \$50 for many years. I'm glad the Legislature finally realized that we need to increase our fees," he said.

The Saipan Mayor's Office will use the added revenue to continue its beautification projects in the CNMI and other projects run by the Saipan Mayor's Office.

Same-sex marriages and the number of marriages performed are only expected to increase as the year progresses.

The upward trend of same-sex marriages started out with the Saipan Mayor's Office officiating 12 same-sex marriages in 2015. Half of the same-sex marriage certificates issued that year were for Chinese tourists.

In 2016, there was a significant jump in same-sex marriages as 30 marriage licenses were issued, 25 of which were issued to same-sex Chinese couples.

The Saipan Mayor's Office issued a total of 88 marriage licenses to same-sex couples in 2017. A total of 63 marriage licenses were issued to female couples and a total of 25 marriage licenses were issued to male couples in 2017 and majority of which were Chinese tourists.

Twin brothers arrested over hit-and-run, other cases

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Police have found out that twin brothers were involved in the hit-and-run involving a car that mowed down a female tourist, who was walking with a female friend on the shoulder of Beach Road, and in several robbery cases victimizing tourists in Marpi and in Garapan.

Police said upon arrest in connection with the hit-and-run incident, Vicente LaatMan Muna, 22, and Anthony LaatMan Muna, 22, made a confession of their involvement to the case and also admitted to other robbery cases in Marpi and Garapan.

The confession led investigators to recover some of the stolen items belonging to the tourists that the Muna brothers threw away in the bushes.

Department of Public Safety crash investigator Sgt. Norris Kwon said during an interview last June 11, the Muna brothers confessed they were smoking marijuana inside a car prior to attempting to snatch the purse of the tourist, who was walking with a friend on Beach Road near Mascot Auto Parts in southern Garapan.

Kwon said Anthony Muna admitted he was the driver of the car and that he had smoked six joints of marijuana that morning shortly after the hit-and-run incident.

The Muna twins were arrested on charges of attempted robbery, conspiracy to attempt robbery, driving on highways laned for traffic, driving on right side of highway, reckless driving, driving under the influence of drugs, and accident.

In a separate case, Vicente LaatMan Muna was arrested on two counts of conspiracy to theft, theft, criminal mischief, and burglary, while Anthony LaatMan Muna, 22, was arrested on charges of two counts of conspiracy to theft, and one count of theft.

Vicente Muna was served with an arrest warrant last Thursday afternoon in As Lito, while his brother Anthony Muna was arrested on the same afternoon in Chalan Kiya.

At a hearing last Friday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed \$50,000 cash bail each on defendants for the robbery cases.

Camacho imposed \$25,000 cash bail each on defendants for the hit-and-run case.

Preliminary hearing will be on July 20 at 1:30pm for both cases.

In the hit-and-run case, DPS received a call about the incident last June 8 at 1:31pm, in which a dark color four-door

» Brothers allegedly admit smoking marijuana prior to robbery attempt that ended up mowing down tourist

sedan struck one of the two female tourists who were walking on the northbound shoulder of Beach Road.

The victim suffered multiple abrasions to the body and closed head injuries.

Kwon said a further review of the surveillance footages of the incident showed the right side of headlamp of the car had damage due to the collision.

Kwon said the footage also showed that the front passenger attempted to snatch the tourist's purse, and the clothing of the passenger was observed.

Kwon said after extensive search around the island, he located the vehicle—a turquoise 2010 Toyota Corolla with license plate ACA-729.

The car, which had damage on the right front headlamp, was then impounded for evidence.

Kwon said the following day of the incident, he identified the driver as Anthony Muna, but the suspect denied he was involved in the crash and stated that the car had damage to the headlamp prior to him renting it.

Kwon said he located an eyewitness who provided a written statement that the twin Muna brothers were seen tapping the right front headlamp of the turquoise Toyota Corolla with a clear packing tape at a residence in Chalan Kiya on June 8 at 4pm.

Kwon said during an interview last June 11, the Muna brothers confessed that their initial motive was to snatch the tourist's purse, but they failed after striking the tourist instead.

Kwon said the brothers also confessed to being involved in recent strings of robbery, burglary, and theft incidents with three other individuals.

In the robbery cases, Police Officer Roque K. Camacho stated in his report that Vicente Muna admitted that he and his twin brother Anthony broke into a van at Grotto and stole several bags and that they also stole a bag at Wing Beach in Marpi.

Camacho said investigation showed that a Ford passenger van loaded with 12 tourists as passengers arrived at Grotto in the afternoon on April 25, 2018.

After the tourists came back to the van after snorkeling, they discovered that the van's window was damaged and a piece of rock was on the driver's seat.

Eight tourists claimed that their bags, money, cellphones,

credit cards, passports, jewelry, keys, and other items were stolen. The money and some items were worth \$10,492.

The Wing Beach theft case happened on the morning of June 1, 2018. An employee of the Phoenix Photo Shop along with three tourists came at the beach for picture taking.

The group placed their belongings on the sand as they walked to the boonie area for

the picture taking.

One of the tourists saw a man, who took their belongings and rode in a red car that sped off.

Vicente Muna allegedly confessed that the money they took from the van at Grotto was worth \$2,000. He allegedly told police that on their way to their farm, which is located near Grotto, they started throwing things they don't need.

In the Wing Beach incident,

Vicente Muna said he and his brother rented a red Toyota Corolla that they used in stealing a bag from tourists last May.



Camacho

After speeding away from Wing Beach, the brothers took the money from a bag and threw the items into the bushes. They proceeded to Kolblerville by the Katmelo farm.

Last June 12, police officers went to a gravel road leading to Katmelo farm, where they then recovered a

handbag that contains credits and identification cards.

Last June 13, officers canvassed the side of the road that leads to Wing Beach for the cellular phones that Anthony Muna had thrown. They found one iPhone with a pink casing. The victim identified the phone as hers.

Police said further investigation showed that the twin brothers and associates were also involved in break-ins of vehicles in Marpi and purse snatching incidents in Garapan. The cases are still pending for investigation.



**Million
Mile
Giveaway**

IT&E Explore Your World



Fulfill your dreams of travel with the IT&E Explore Your World Million Mile Giveaway. We're giving away 60,000 United MileagePlus Miles every week.* Visit our stores for details.

Don't forget, you can earn United MileagePlus miles every month when you sign up for any Explorer Bundle service.*

**EXPLORE
YOUR
WORLD**



store.ite.net
ite.cnmi
ite.cnmi

Explore Your World Million Mile Giveaway is from July 16 to November 2, 2018. All new and existing IT&E Postpaid, Prepaid, and Internet customers with good credit standing are eligible to win. No purchase necessary. Visit www.ite.net for complete rules and regulations. Terms and conditions apply.

Castro, Kim-Tenorio to run for retention

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro and Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio have officially informed the Commonwealth Election Commission of their intent to run for retention at the Nov. 6 general election.

CEC acting executive director Kayla Igitol disclosed that they received Castro's letter of notification last Friday and Kim-Tenorio's yesterday.

Igitol said with the letters, Castro and Kim-Tenorio's names will be included in the ballots.

In the ballots the electorate will be presented with the question: Shall Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro of the Commonwealth Supreme Court be retained in office? Shall Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio of the Commonwealth Superior Court be retained in office?

In his letter to CEC execu-

tive director Julita A. Villagomez, Castro said he is writing to confirm that he intends to run for retention and be included in the 2018 ballot.

Castro said under Section 5, Article IV of the NMI Constitution, he is subject to a judicial retention election at the general election immediately before the end of his term.

Castro's eight-year term will expire on Oct. 10, 2020. Then-governor Benigno R. Fitial nominated him on Sept.

13, 2012 as chief justice of the CNMI Supreme Court.

Castro ascended to the CNMI Supreme Court as associate justice in July 1998. In 2005, voters retained him to the high court's bench.

Castro became an associate judge in Superior Court in 1989 and became presiding judge in 1993.

In her letter to CEC executive director Villagomez, Kim-Tenorio said she is deeply committed to con-

tinuing her public service to the people of the Commonwealth in "administering justice fairly, but with compassion and understanding."

Kim-Tenorio said pursuant to Article IV of the CNMI Constitution, she gives notice that she will be seeking retention in this year's general election.

Kim-Tenorio's term as an associate judge is set to expire on Dec. 22, 2019. She was nominated to the bench on

Oct. 3, 2013.

Kim-Tenorio is a judge for the CNMI Drug Court.

Under the CNMI Constitution, the question whether justices or judges will be retained shall be put to a vote at a general election immediately before the end of that justice's or judge's initial term of office.

In 2003, Juan T. Lizama became the first judge in the CNMI to be retained on the bench.

Torres-Palacios touts progress for CNMI youth

In a recent statement from gubernatorial candidate Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and running mate Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), the tandem highlighted the achievements made toward improving services for and advancing the role of young people in the CNMI.

"Since coming into office in 2014, I have made effort to proactively place our resources in providing our students and young professionals the means and opportunities to take leadership roles in the future of our islands," Torres said. "Looking back, I think we can be proud of not only increasing funding for the

CNMI Scholarship Program, Northern Marianas College, Workforce Investment Agency, our Office of Youth Affairs, and, of course, our Public School System, but also that we have helped to better create an environment of greater opportunity for young professionals to find fulfilling work for better pay right here at home."

Torres referenced the substantial increases in appropriated funding for the CNMI's youth since assuming the lieutenant governor position in 2015. Between fiscal year 2015 and the current fiscal year 2018, the administration and the Republican-controlled

Legislature have:

■ 47 percent increase to CNMI Scholarship Program

■ 29 percent increase to the Northern Marianas College

■ 28 percent increase to Office of Youth Affairs

■ 43 percent increase to the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library

■ 62 percent increase to the Workforce Investment Agency

■ 47 percent increase to the Public School System

■ "The fact that this administration has appropriated more funding to our Public School System than ever before is a clear indicator of our collective efforts to support our next generation" said

Palacios, "But it doesn't just stop there."

"From increasing resources to our college, to providing more opportunity for our students to be educated and building an economy that can support more jobs at higher wages for them, this administration has done more to educate, train, and support our youth than ever before," he added.

Palacios sought to underscore the impact increasing wages and economic growth had for advancing young professionals and recent graduates. According to the CNMI Department of Commerce, average wages in the CNMI have increased 42 percent between 2014 and 2016—from \$8.71 an hour to a record \$12.38 an hour.

For Torres, it is about providing the environment for our youth to succeed. "Government can only do so much, but in what we can do, I have fought for every opportunity we can provide for our youth," Torres said. "We have supported Child Care facilities

so young families can work and earn a higher standard of living, we have used the new resources from our economic growth to give more than ever before to students, and I have personally made a serious effort to place smart and talented young professionals in positions of influence in government boards, like CUC, CDA and MPLT, and in my senior staff and departments in order to bring a new and fresh voice to the table."

Palacios, for his part, believes much of this motivation arises from who Torres is. "Often times, people overlook the fact that governor Torres is the youngest governor the CNMI has ever had, and is actually the youngest governor in the nation. Yet as young as he is, he has accomplished so much for all people in the CNMI."

"He is a prime example of what our young leaders can do and I am proud of all we have done together and look forward to all the progress we can achieve in the future," Palacios said. (PR)

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND Floor Arrival Bldg.
PO BOX 501055 SAIPAN MP 96950
Phone: (1-670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (1-670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com
Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that the Board Committees on Financial Affairs, Airport Facilities and Seaport Facilities will be holding a Special meeting on Tuesday, July 17, 2018, beginning 1:30 p.m. in the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Classroom located in the Airport Fire Station at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport on the island of Saipan.

AGENDAS

Financial Affairs Committee

- I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes
- II. Public Comments
- III. Items:
 1. Merchant Services Proposal Update
 2. Air Carrier Incentive Program
 3. Committee Report
 4. Financial Reports
- IV. Executive Session
- V. Miscellaneous
- VI. Adjournment

Airport Facilities Committee

- I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes
- II. Public Comments
- III. Items:
 1. Grazing Applications - Rota
 2. Tandem Skydive
 3. Saipan International Airport Car Rental Concession
 4. Divert
- IV. Executive Session: Legal briefing on Tinian Airport/Divert
- V. Miscellaneous
- VI. Adjournment

Seaport Facilities Committee

- I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda, Adoption of Minutes
- II. Public Comments
- III. Items:
 1. Saipan Globe/Wharfage Rates Analysis
 2. Ginen Saipan
 3. Fenders for Port of Saipan
 4. Phoenix Services
- IV. Executive Session
- V. Miscellaneous
- VI. Adjournment

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. A time limit will be imposed for oral testimony.



Northern Marianas Humanities Council
Navigating the Human Experience

Employment Opportunity Executive Director

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council (Council) is inviting dynamic, motivated, and self-driven individuals with strong interest and previous experience in the humanities to submit an employment application for the position of Executive Director.

The Executive Director is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the Council's administrative, financial, and program activities under the supervision of the Council's Executive Committee. A detailed description of the Executive Director's duties may be obtained from the Council's office in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai or from the Council's website at www.northernmarianashumanities.org.

Applicants for this position must possess: (1). a Bachelor's degree (Master's degree preferred) in an area of the humanities from an accredited post-secondary institution; (2). supervisory experience of at least three years as a director of programs preferably relating to the humanities and at least three years of experience in Federal programs administration preferably in an area relating to the humanities; (3). a solid knowledge of accounting, budgeting, financial management, marketing and strategic planning; (4). demonstrated experience with resource development, fundraising strategies, and cultivating donor relations; (5). an in-depth knowledge of Northern Mariana Islands culture, history, political and social developments, current events, and he/she must have familiarity with the Pacific region as a whole; (6). an ability to work well in a multicultural setting and a high level of communication and leadership skills.

The salary range is from \$50,000 to \$55,000 depending on qualifications and experience. Benefits are set forth in the Council's Personnel Policy Manual.

Interested individuals are invited to send an application package including (1). letter of interest; (2). detailed resume with proof of educational attainment; and (3). the names and addresses of three references to:

Polly DLG. Masga
Board Chairperson, Northern Marianas Humanities Council
P.O. Box 506437, Saipan, MP, 96950

Complete application packages must be received by the Council on or before **4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 31, 2018**. The Council reserves the right to extend the submission deadline at its convenience. For more information about this employment opportunity, please contact Council staff at 235-4785.

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is an equal opportunity employer.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD
P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814
Email: cnmi@cnmibpl-hcplb.net
Website: cnmibpl-hcplb.net

Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on **Thursday, July 19, 2018 at 8 am** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the CHCC Conference Room #2, Lower Navy Hill.

AGENDA

- I. **Meeting Call to Order**
- II. **Determination of Quorum**
- III. **Review and Adoption of Agenda**
- IV. **Review and Adoption of Minutes (06/28/18)**
- V. **Public Comments**
- VI. **Chairperson's Report**
- VII. **Director's Report**
 - HCPLB Financial Report
 - Update reports on pending complaints
- VIII. **Investigator's Report**
- IX. **Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature**
 - A. Governor's Office
 - B. Legislature
- X. **Old Business**
 - Substance Abuse Counselor Regulations
- XI. **New Business**
 - Hearing on the complaints against Taylor Ada, Becky Mettao and Alvin Tagabuel
 - Proposed Amendment to the HCPLB Legislation
- XII. **Pending Applications for Board's Review**
 - A. New Applications:
 - B. Renewal Applications:
- XIII. **Miscellaneous Business**
- XIV. **Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with counsel with pending or anticipated legal matters.**
- XV. **Announcements**
 - A. Next Meeting Date
 - B. Adjournment of Meeting

/s/ Theodore R. Parker, R.Ph., MPH
Chairman



100 DAYS OF Summer SAVINGS

AK SINCE 1914 **SIGNATURE
USED CARS**

Call me
NICOLE SABLAN
@234-5911



BROWSE OUR INVENTORY AT AKSAIPAN.COM



2004 Sienna LE Van
8-pax, 6-cyl, 3.3-liter, Auto, FWD
STK#U18-031T

NOW \$9,499*



2007 FJ Cruiser, V6
Manual, 6-spd, 4WD, Red,
Mileage 60,105, STK#U17-133T
WAS \$17,599

NOW \$12,999*



2016 Yaris LE HB
4-Door, 4-cyl, 1.5-liter, Auto, FWD,
Bronz/Blk, STK#U18-051R

NOW \$13,399*



2016 Yaris LE HB
4-Door, 4-cyl, 1.5-liter, Auto, FWD,
Red, STK#U18-050R

NOW \$13,599*



2016 Yaris HB
4-Door, 4-cyl, 1.5-liter, Auto, FWD, White
Mileage 18,033, STK#U18-055R

NOW \$13,699*



2016 Yaris HB
4-Door, 4-cyl, 1.5-liter, Auto, Gray
Mileage 17,825, STK#U18-056R

NOW \$13,799*



2010 Prius C
4-cyl, Hybrid, Auto, FWD, Blue,
Mileage 17,334, STK#U18-017R
WAS \$16,999

NOW \$13,999*



2013 Venza LE Wagon
4-Door, 4-cyl, 2.7-liter, Auto, FWD,
Green, STK#R18-021R

NOW \$14,999*



2016 Scion iM
HB, 4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Blue,
Mileage 25,938, STK#U18-021R
WAS \$18,699

NOW \$16,999*



2016 Corolla LE
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Red,
STK#R18-014F

NOW \$18,899*



2017 Corolla LE
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Black,
STK#R18-015F

NOW \$20,899*



2016 Camry SE
4-Dr, 4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Silver,
Mileage 24,399, STK#U18-028R

NOW \$21,699*



2017 RAV4 LE
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Bronze,
STK#U18-045R

NOW \$21,999*



2017 RAV4 LE
4-cyl, Auto, FWD, Bronze,
STK#U18-047R

NOW \$22,499*



2017 Camry LE
4-Door, 4-cyl, 2.5-liter, Auto, FWD,
White, Mileage 23,258, STK#U18-058R

NOW \$22,999*



2016 Prius
4-cyl, Hybrid, 1.8-liter, Auto, FWD,
Blue, Mileage 17,152, STK#U18-57R

NOW \$22,999*



2017 RAV4 LE
4-cyl, 2.5-liter, Auto, AWD, Red
Mileage 18,121, STK#R18-020F

NOW \$23,999*



2015 RAV4 LE
4-cyl, 2.5-liter, Auto, AWD, Bronze
STK#R18-016F

NOW \$20,699*



2017 Camry LE
4-Door, 4-cyl, 2.5-liter, Auto, FWD, Gold
Mileage 12,499, STK#U18-059R

NOW \$23,399*



2015 Tacoma
AC, 6-ft, 4-cyl, 2.7-liter, Auto, AWD,
Bronze, STK#U18-060T

NOW \$24,699*



2014 Tacoma 2WD, DC
4-cyl, Auto, Gray, STK#U17-139T
WAS \$26,899

NOW \$25,499*



2013 Tacoma
DC, V6, Auto, 4WD, Red,
STK#U18-038T

NOW \$28,899*



2017 Tacoma DC SR5
4-cyl, 2.7-liter, Auto, 2WD, Silver,
Mileage 17,659, STK#U18-022F

NOW \$29,199*



2015 Nissan Xterra
Pro-4X, V6, Auto, 4WD, Red,
STK#U18-035T

NOW \$28,499*

*On approved credit. Conditions apply. See dealer for details. Fees not included. Mileage may vary.

**LARGEST Used Car Inventory on island! CHECK OUT OUR NEW LISTING
OF USED CARS AT www.AKsaipan.com. VISIT US TODAY!**



Atkins Kroll (Saipan), Inc.
#1 Chalan Msr Guerrero San Jose
Saipan, MP 96950

Call 234-5911

Showroom Hours: Monday to Friday 8 am to 5 pm
Saturday Hours 8 am to 5 pm



HERE FOR SAIPAN. HERE FOR LIFE.

Browse our online showroom - Visit: www.AKsaipan.com

4 Cs help SIS earn accreditation

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Adapting the 4 Cs from the Partnership for 21st Century Skills helped Saipan International School in achieving a six-year accreditation status from the Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

SIS headmaster Ron Snyder told *Saipan Tribune* that it was AP English and statistics teacher Ingur Lee who

suggested that they adapt the 4 Cs from the Partnership for 21st Century Skills as the school's objectives.

"In a partnership between business leaders and educators in K-12 and Higher Education, Communication, Collaboration, Critical Thinking and Creativity have been identified as critical for success in university and the working world in the future," said Snyder.

"SIS applied for accreditation through WASC. We

have been accredited before but need to undergo a full self-study evaluation every six years. This self-study lasted a full year and involved the full staff, parents and students."

The ACS WASC commissioners, in a letter sent to Snyder, said they found that SIS' PK-12 programs have met their criteria for accreditation. "This accreditation status is based on all of the information provided by the school, including the self-

study report, and the satisfactory completion of the on-site accreditation visit."

"SIS is required to prepare a mid-cycle progress report for the mid-cycle visit. The report and visit should demonstrate that the school has: Addressed the critical areas for follow-up through the school-wide action plan, made appropriate progress on the implementation

of the school-wide action plan, and improved student achievement relative to the school-wide learner outcomes and the academic standards."

Snyder said they looked at SIS' whole educational program in order to find areas where they could improve. "This included re-evaluating the school's mission and vision. We realized that our former school-wide learner objectives were not meeting the needs of our students so looked at what could help

out our students best."

He added that SIS' accreditation meant their program went into a rigorous quality control program that would help their students as they seek higher education. "Because of this, universities can rest assured that our students are prepared for success in post-secondary classes."

"It also means that the U.S. government recognizes our program and has authorized us to accept international students with student visas," said Snyder.

CNMI to celebrate Gay Pride

The LGBT community on Saipan aims to educate the island about its existence and what better way than through a huge celebration.

Better late than never is what comes to mind with the Saipan LGBT community's first Gay Pride celebration this July 29.

Although international Pride Month has passed, it's never too late to celebrate Gay pride so the LGBT com-

munity on Saipan has decided to throw a Gay Pride in the Marianas celebration.

On July 29, catch the Paper Dolls in some of their most fun, colorful, whimsical costumes to represent Pride.

According to event organizer Sharmaine Casquero, the event is expected to be one to remember.

Casquero said the community can expect 13 different

individuals dressed in fabulous costumes and parading all over the GIG Discotheque and Bossano Bar located in Garapan. There will even be live performances.

For individuals interested in partaking in the Gay Pride in the Marianas celebration, tickets are currently on sale for \$20 apiece so get yours while supplies last.

For tickets, feel free to contact Casquero at 233-2643. *(Kimberly Bautista)*

Senate confirms 2 to Licensing Board

The Senate confirmed two representatives to the CNMI Professional Licensing Board representing Saipan unanimously.

During a session on Friday, the Senate confirmed Elizabeth Balajadia and Roy Reyes to serve a full term of six years for the PLB, or the body that reviews professional licensing applications in the NMI.

Balajadia, who is a licensed civil engineer, said she wishes to "protect the community" by making sure engineers are licensed.

"I'd also like to [urge] our young engineers to [obtain licensure] in the CNMI," said Balajadia.

The PLB works together with the Health Care Professions Licensing Board on licensing medical professionals.

Reyes, like Balajadia, remains thankful to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for his appointment. He noted that he was looking forward to an additional six years for his tenure on the board.

"We have been getting a lot

of applicants from off-island, so we would continue our diligent effort to make sure that we screen those applicants," said Reyes.

"One of our [responsibilities] is that when we get complaints, we review them," he added.

The PLB's scope includes reviewing the licensure applications of engineers, architects, surveyors, and appraisers. The PLB is a regulatory board that adheres to the national standard set in the U.S. *(Erwin Encinares)*

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

2018 LibDay sked out

The 2018 Liberation Day festivities will resume on July 17-21 at Garapan Fishing Base at 6pm with food, drinks, entertainment, games, BINGO, trivia giveaways, and more. Entertainment on July 17 will be Uraalii Carolinian dance group at 7pm, Guma Simiyan Mananaita Chamorro dance group at 7:50pm, Saipan Music & Dance Studio Philipines at 8:25pm, Nien Hotte at 9pm, and Tattoo at 9:30pm. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/cnmiliberationday. *(PR)*

Lower Base Transfer Station, Marpi Landfill closed on Saturday

In observance of the 2018 Liberation Day parade, the Lower Base Transfer Station and the Marpi Landfill will be closed at 1:30pm on Saturday, July 21, 2018. However, both facilities will open through lunch (11:30am-12:30pm). Normal operations will resume on Monday, July 23, 2018.

MHS SY 2019 student orientations schedule

Marianas High School will be

conducting their school year 2018-2019 Student Orientations. Schedules are as follow:

Incoming freshmen and new transfer students (all grade levels): Aug. 8, 2018, 9am-12pm - School Gym

Ongoing Sophomores, Juniors & Seniors: August 9, 2018, 9am-11am - School Gym

Registration is ongoing. Students will need to furnish a copy of their birth certificate, an updated health certificate, an updated student insurance, a copy of their 8th grade diploma (incoming freshmen), an official transcript (if transferring from another high school) along with a completed registration form. Last day to register will be on July 26, 2018. *(PR)*

NMHC voucher program list to open July 23

Pursuant to Section 5.1[1] of the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.'s Section 8 Administrative Plan, this is to inform the general public that NMHC is opening its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program's (HCVP) waiting list starting July 23, 2018.

The waitlist will remain open until it reaches its maximum number of applicants. Interested families may pick up an application at the NMHC Main Office on Saipan or the Field Offices on Tinian and Rota, or visit our website at www.nmhc.gov.net to download an application. Please submit your application in person at the NMHC Main Office on Saipan or the Field Offices on Tinian and Rota, from Monday through Friday (except holidays) between 8am and 4pm. NMHC is not accepting on-line submission of applications as of this time.

■ NMHC Main Office
Monday-Friday 8am-4pm
■ Tinian Field Office
Monday-Friday 8am-4pm
■ Rota Field Office
Monday-Friday 8am-4pm

NMHC Housing Specialists will review the applications and formally contact applicants to schedule an eligibility appointment. For more information, please contact NMHC at telephone numbers 234-6866 or 234-9446 (Saipan), 433-9213 (Tinian), or 532-9410 (Rota). *(PR)*

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 17, 2000

PSS seeks funding for school opening

The Public School System has requested Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio for additional resources for School Year 2000-2001 to help the agency hire some 76 full-time equivalents needed for the public education sector. Dr. Rita H. Inos, commissioner of education, is seeking some \$640,000 in supplemental budget for personnel allotments to enable PSS meet the teacher and staff requirement of the new Kagman Elementary School. Hiring additional personnel would also enable the school the cut down the average class size to 20 from the current 30 students per teacher. Dr. Inos also expressed hopes that the PSS FY 2001 spending package is approved before the next fiscal year begins.

New firm eyed to manage Fund's health claims

The NMI Retirement Fund Board is set to hire a review utilization firm this month in a move to efficiently manage all health claims of the members, according to Board Chair Vicente C. Camacho. Mr. Camacho said the firm will be able to negotiate the best quality service and cost for the Fund which has been having difficulty coping with the huge cost of medical claims since it took over the government's health insurance in June 1998. One of the firms that submitted the proposal has offered to provide the Fund 20 percent discount on all medical services

including room and board, surgery and prescription drugs for patients. In 1999, the Fund spends an average of 400,000 a month in health claims of its members alone.

July 17, 2004

Drydocking project gets conditional OK

The Coastal Resources Management Office has approved with conditions a coastal permit for the drydocking of a vessel at the Saipan seaport. The permit was given to Pacific Subsea Saipan Inc. to drydock M/V Crystal II for maintenance and repairs at the South Seaplane Ramp Commercial Port in Lower Base. In granting his approval, CRM director Joaquin Salas included certain conditions "to avoid direct and significant impacts on the Commonwealth's coastal resources and whenever possible, to mitigate foreseeable impacts." The regulatory agency prohibited the disposal of paint, oil or other chemicals in the ocean or around the proposed project area, as well as the use of tributyltin-based antifouling bottom paint.

Garapan mall project to take next step

The ongoing construction of the multi-million Garapan Pedestrian Mall will take a significant step by the end of next week, with the laying of concrete along the street to be completed by that time. According to project coordinator Bill Wanket of the Department of Public Works, this will result in the removal of the barriers that are currently present in the area. "Once that is completed, the barriers will go down and people will then be able to walk from one end to another," he said. "Access will be open." He cautioned, though, that people should be careful as construction work would still continue. The project is expected to generate at least \$200 million in revenue for the government

within the four-year period of the revitalization.

July 17, 2005

Tourist arrivals down 5.6 percent

Visitor arrivals to the Northern Marianas dropped by 5.6 percent last month, as compared with June 2004, due to decreased airline seats capacity from the Commonwealth's two biggest tourist markets. The CNMI received only 43,155 visitors in June 2005, posting the biggest percentage decline since the start of the current fiscal year. The number of visitors from Japan—the CNMI's primary market—reached only 30,469 in June, sliding 7 percent from the same month last year. China was the top performing market in June 2005, generating 2,419 visitors for the Northern Marianas. This represents a 39-percent increase compared to the same month in 2004.

Asiana Airlines: Service likely not to be affected by strike

Flights between Saipan and Seoul are not likely to be disrupted by the strike started yesterday by unionized pilots at South Korea's Asiana Airlines, the air carrier's local office assured customers. Asiana-Saipan general manager Kwang Joong Kim said yesterday that the airline's Saipan-Seoul service was operating normally and was expected to continue to do so despite the failed negotiations between Asiana management and employees' union. "Everything's going to be all right. Only 30 percent of the cabin crew is participating in the strike, so we can manage to operate normally right now," said Kim. He also expressed confidence that the negotiations would resume and conclude soon. Furthermore, Kim said the Saipan service would be among the last flights to be cancelled even if matters get worse than expected.

'Local GOP has no more vision'

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Democratic Party of the Northern Marianas last week threw its support to former governor Juan N. Babauta after the latter chose to leave his former party and decided to seek his previous post as an independent candidate. Former CNMI State Public School System commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan is Babauta's running mate.

Babauta was a Republican when he won the CNMI's chief executive post in 2002, but lost his reelection bid in 2006 to former House speaker Benigno R. Fitial, who then became the Commonwealth's sixth governor. The late Pedro P. Tenorio served twice.

The Democratic Party, through a central executive committee resolution, said Babauta has parted ways with the local GOP with no more intention of rejoining his former party, saying that the CNMI Republican Party has lost its vision.

"Although [Babauta] was first elected governor as a Republican, he since has parted ways with the Republican Party (which in recent years has degenerated to historic lows of arrogance, abuse of power, absence of principle or vision, and the politics

of self-aggrandizement over service) and has made it clear he has no intention to ever return to the Republican Party," said the resolution signed by party chair Daniel O. Quitugua and secretary Jonathan P. Cabrera.

They resolution added that people of the CNMI are looking for competence and leadership as qualities of a gubernatorial candidate.

"The people of the CNMI are crying out for a gubernatorial candidate who lives and displays the qualities of competence, principle, leadership, and integrity, and has demonstrated the capacity to learn from past mistakes."

Aside from being committed to equal opportunity and economic justice, and promote responsible citizenship, the local Democratic Party said they are also dedicated to "open, transparent, and accountable government that listens to the people."

They then cited Babauta's track record as a public servant starting as the islands' third CNMI resident representative to Washington, D.C. in 1990 where he served for 12 years before being elected as governor in 2002.

Babauta's years of being the CNMI resident representative in D.C. helped built "trust and produc-

Democratic Party of the Northern Marianas chair Daniel O. Quitugua, center, presides over a recent meeting of the party.



tive relationships, and often having to overcome damage done, and explain embarrassing conduct, of Republican governors, while always safeguarding and promoting the interests of the CNMI people."

They said that Babauta "has the education, experience, commitment, and competence to rescue the people of the CNMI from deception, corruption, dishonesty, indif-

ference, and incompetence of the current administration."

The Democratic Party at first endorsed Sablan as their nominee for either lieutenant governor or governor, but they could not find her a running mate. Sablan, a Democrat that hopes to bring back democratic values in the CNMI government, teamed up with Babauta, but the latter was not yet ready to make the jump to the

Democratic Party.

They believe that the Babauta-Sablan ticket, once elected, would bring back "confidence and accountability in [CNMI] government, responsiveness to the will of the people, and visionary and creative leadership, particularly in areas of healthcare, education, United States-CNMI relations, cultural values, and the economy."

DEA recognizes Rota's Manglona

Resident director of the Rota Department of Public Safety, Eusebio M. Manglona, was recently recognized for his service as a DEA Drug Task Force Officer in a brief ceremony with Rota Mayor Efrain Atalig, Attorney General Edward Manibusan, director of Customs Service Jose Mafnas, and DEA resident agent Ed Talbot.

A Drug Task Force in Rota was once established and comprised of the Department of Public Safety, Division of Customs Service, and the Division of Fish and Wildlife personnel. As a result of the lack of resources, the Task Force on Rota was unable to function and eventually ended. Recently, however, the CNMI Attorney General met with the Division of Customs Service and DEA officials on Rota to revive the Task Force.

Manibusan states, "We will continue to pursue enforcement efforts throughout the investigation and prosecution of drug related offenses in the CNMI. Local law enforcement agencies will continue to work in collaboration with our federal counterparts and strengthen enforcement goals.

Also present at the recognition ceremony were Rota Division of Customs Service Captain Ted Manglona and representatives from the Rota Division of Fish and Wildlife and DPS. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A plaque of recognition was presented to Rota DPS resident director Eusebio M. Manglona for his services as a DEA Drug Task Force Officer. In the photo with Manglona are Rota Mayor Efrain Atalig, Attorney General Edward Manibusan, director of Customs Service Jose Mafnas, DEA resident agent Ed Talbot, Rota Division of Customs Service Captain Ted Manglona, and representatives from the Rota Division of Fish and Wildlife and DPS.

How's Your Hearing?

Specializing in:

- Hearing Evaluations
- Custom fitted hearing aids
- Digital and Programmable Technology
- Custom Communication Devices

■ **Wednesday, July 25th 9:00am - 4:00pm**
at **Marianas Medical Center in Garapan**



**Ross
Hearing
Aids**

All interested patients should call
Marianas Medical Clinic for scheduling
234-3925/7
Insurance accepted: AETNA and Medicaid



Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS
Board Certified in Hearing
Instrument Sciences
Email: rosshearingaids@yahoo.com

Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 140Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR
editor@saipantribune.com**Mark Rabago** ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

We shouldn't rush to abolish ICE—yet

Calls to abolish the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency didn't begin with the recent family separation and detention crisis, but the cry has increased in volume in the past few weeks among activists, congressional candidates and current representatives, mayors, and senators. Last week, House Democrats a bill that would establish a task force to recommend a new "humane" agency to replace ICE.

The 15-year-old agency has built a troubled history of overreach and abuse, and has become a symbol for the fractious debate over immigration. A June report by the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Inspector General found the agency to be noncompliant with detention standards, while complaint data obtained by the news site Intercept exhibit a troubling pattern of sexual abuse in detention centers. Most disturbing, 27 immigrants have died in ICE custody since 2015, according to the American Immigration Lawyers Association.

Given this history, hard scrutiny of ICE, if not its elimination, may be justified. But it is not clear what the American immigration system would look like without ICE. It is also not clear that those calling to abolish ICE have a coherent and unified vision for what should take its place.

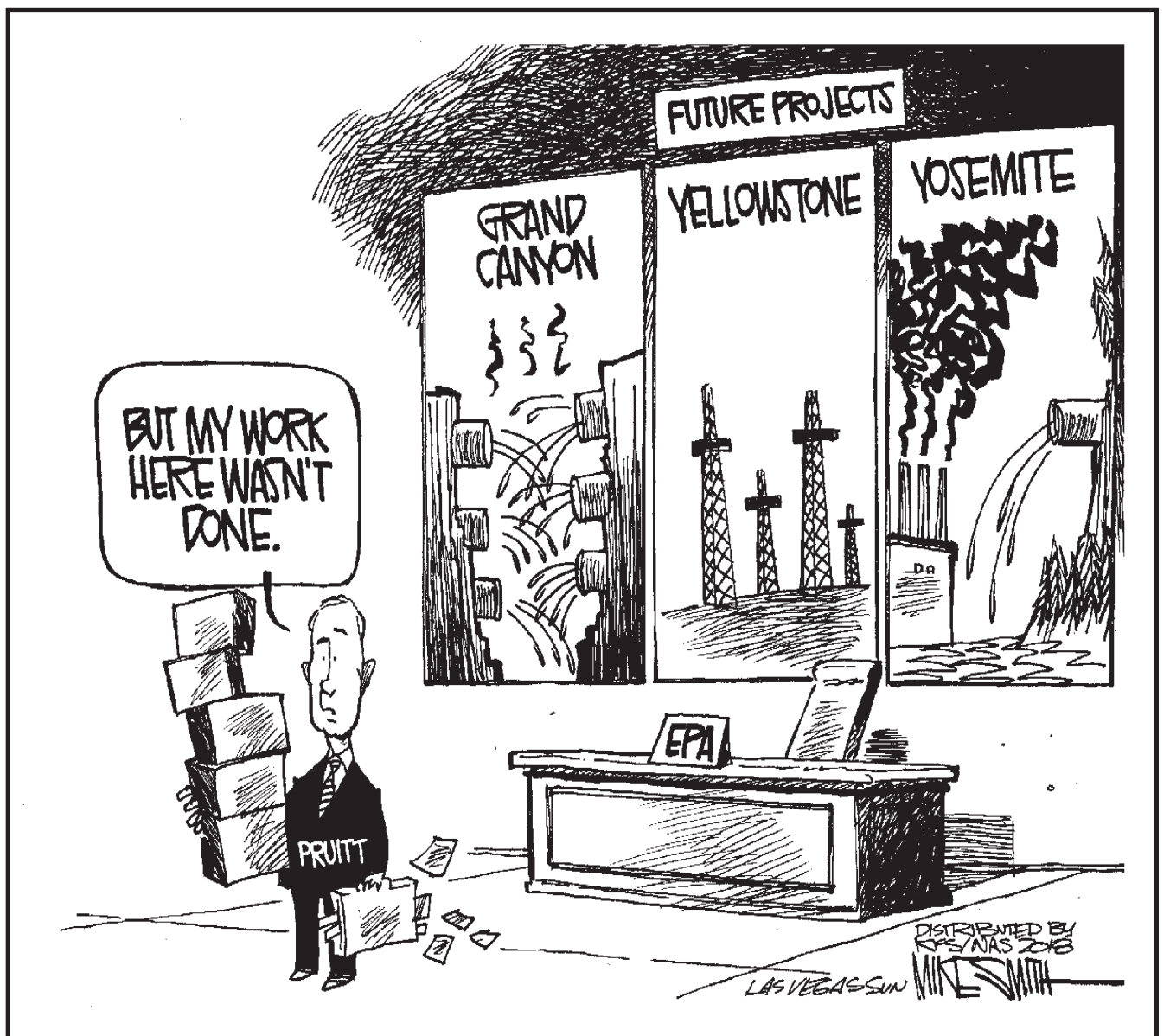
ICE was created as part of an overhaul of the national security apparatus that was led by panic, fear, and confusion after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Before ICE, all immigration functions were under the umbrella of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. When the Department of Homeland Security was established in 2003, the various functions of INS were distributed among new agencies. ICE was entrusted with enforcing federal immigration law inside the United States. Having an agency that is so focused on the detention and removal of immigrants further framed immigration as a criminal issue. In the 15 years since, that criminalization mindset remains, cemented by the election of Donald Trump, who began stoking fears about those from other countries.

But we can't know what ICE or any alternative must do until we figure out our long-term and coherent vision for immigration.

"Abolish ICE" is a problematic rallying cry because it has so many potential meanings: "open borders," reorganization of the agency or creation of a new agency with a different mission,

While the focus on ICE has brought attention to some of the most problematic elements of our immigration system, calling for its removal is also a way to avoid the bigger question: What should the immigration policy of the United States in the 21st century be? Abolishing ICE is a procedural step toward reform and not the reform itself. The harder decisions — how secure we want our borders to be, whether there should be a pathway to citizenship and what that looks like, and how to make our system of processing asylum-seekers more humane and efficient — still confront us. For now, abolishing ICE remains a rallying cry, not a vision.

©2018 The Philadelphia Inquirer



Imprecise language leads to bad politics

FBI agent Peter Strzok's testimony last week before the House Judiciary and Oversight Committees reminded me of that old warhorse of college freshman composition, "Politics and the English Language."

In 1946, British writer George Orwell connected the disorder of contemporary politics with the decay of clear, expressive language. Referring to politics, Orwell said, "When the general atmosphere is bad, language must suffer."

But if bad politics undermines clear language, bad writing and speaking make good politics increasingly elusive.

The English language, Orwell said, "becomes ugly and inaccurate because our thoughts are foolish, but the slovenliness of our language makes it easier for us to have foolish thoughts."

In other words, imprecise language spawns imprecise thinking — and vice versa. This premise was clearly reflected in the contentious testimony before the House committees.

Strzok was accused by House Republicans of "bias," based on emails that Strzok exchanged with his mistress expressing his distaste for presidential candidate Donald Trump.

When the emails came to light, Strzok was immediately dismissed from his role in special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation. But House Oversight Committee Chairman Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., said Strzok's dismissal was too late.

"The text and emails may have been discovered in May of 2017, but the bias existed and was manifest a year and a half before that. ... It wasn't the discovery of texts that got him fired, it was the bias manifest in those texts that made him unfit to objectively and dispassionately investigate."

Orwell would have objected to that sloppy and tendentious use of the word "bias," which nearly always has a negative connotation. Its definition includes the notion of prejudice or of a preconceived and unreasoned judgment.

Strzok's late-night emails to his mistress were ill-advised, but there's no reason to think that his political perspective on a potential Trump presidency was prejudiced, preconceived or unreasonable. Indeed, many Americans shared Strzok's perspective at the time, and many to believe — quite reasonably — that Trump is a terrible and dangerous president.

But perspective and opinion are not bias. If Strzok had allowed his political opinions to color his role in the investigation of the Clinton emails or Mueller's Russia probe, that act could

By JOHN M. CRISP
Tribune News Service

John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, lives in Georgetown, Texas, and can be reached at jcrispcolumns@gmail.com.



properly be described as biased. But Strzok contended, under oath, that he did not; the Department of Justice inspector general's inquiry reports that he did not; and Republicans have not presented evidence that he did.

What Strzok is guilty of is having an opinion, and then using poor judgment in expressing his opinion to his mistress in writing. We might imagine the universe in which intelligent, informed, concerned people like Strzok could not possibly have an opinion about the wisdom of electing a man like Trump, but such a place is a fantasy. Even F.B.I. agents are citizens first and they have both a right and an obligation to have opinions about our country's best interests. It's unrealistic to expect them to do otherwise.

What we can expect — and demand — is that their political opinions have no impact on their commitment to the FBI's mission. And the evidence indicates that Strzok's opinions did not affect his investigative work.

But the Republicans' imprecise use of a term like "bias" — and the public's failure to demand more precision — transforms the Strzok episode, which is a minor event in the larger Russian interference episode, into one of the Republicans' main weapons in the campaign to discredit the Mueller investigation. And, indeed, it has received particular emphasis precisely because there are so few others.

Orwell said, "The great enemy of clear language is insincerity." Thus President Trump often has trouble expressing himself clearly and often has to rely on reliable formulas and jargon.

The other great enemy of clear language and good politics is the use of imprecise language to achieve a political end. The goal is confusion rather than clarity, and the result is uncritical thinking and an expanding cycle of more imprecise language.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Trump opposes foreign worker visas—except for Mar-a-Lago

We're too lazy, us Americans.
Or maybe we lack the requisite skills.
Either way, we're obviously not up to staffing a high priority presidential enterprise.

We can't cook. Serve food. Sling drinks. Wash dishes. Bus tables. Clean rooms. Tend gardens.

We can't perform such work well enough to serve the president's business interests. Or maybe it's that we just won't do it cheaply enough.

So once again, President Donald Trump has found himself forced to staff his beloved Mar-a-Lago Club with the very sort of workers he once vowed to banish — those damn job-stealing foreigners.

The blame, of course, lies not with our great president, but with our less-than-great selves. We're the apparent flaw in Donald Trump's plan to make America grand again. Americans — or at least Americans drawn from South Florida's slovenly workforce — just aren't up to working within the gilded confines of his Palm Beach manor. The president and his cronies require something special from their servers. Perhaps an exotic East European accent.

On July 5, Trump's beachside club submitted a request to the U.S. Department of Labor for permission to hire 61 non-American seasonal workers. According to Vox, Mar-a-Lago claimed that it needed 40 servers and 21 cooks to work at the club from October through May.

The resort's application attests that qualified Americans can't be found to fill these essential jobs. The document also indicates that the famously ostentatious club, which charges members \$200,000 a year to hang with the Great Leader, intends to pay imported cooks \$13.31 an hour and servers \$12.68 an hour. (No tipping allowed). Perhaps Mar-a-Lago's Third World pay scale accounts for the paucity of

American applicants.

"It's called Palm Beach social season. And what we do is we sometimes have to bring people in," candidate Trump told ABC News back in 2016, explaining his club's need for seasonal foreign workers.

Department of Labor records, however, indicate that other Trump properties, golf clubs, resorts and hotels, also covet cheap imported labor. ABC News reported that since Trump declared his candidacy in 2015, Trump brands have applied for more than 400 H-2B visas for low-skilled, non-agricultural seasonal workers.

Vox reported that of the 144 seasonal job openings that Trump businesses posted from 2016 to 2017, only one was filled by an American. The other 143 went to H-2B visa holders.

It's not just Trump bent on exploiting imported labor. Hundreds of hotels, ski resorts and restaurants clamor for H-2B seasonal workers. It's pretty obvious to South Floridians that local restaurants have hired a disproportionate number of servers with accents out of the old Soviet bloc.

Apparently H-2B workers are so crucial to his brand that the cost-cutting business guy Donald Trump has trumped the xenophobic America-first Donald Trump.

Candidate Trump promised cheering red hats that he would "institute an absolute requirement to hire American workers for every visa and immigration program. No exceptions."

But self-dealing businessman Trump decided otherwise. Last July, his administration increased the annual allocation of H-2B visas from 66,000 to 81,000. Three days later, Trump properties applied for 76 visas.

Mar-a-Lago, if barely, managed to comply with the Labor Department requirement that employers seeking H-2B visa foreign workers first attempt to fill job openings with Americans. According to the Washington Post, the resort ran a small

By FRED GRIMM
Sun Sentinel



Fred Grimm, a longtime resident of Fort Lauderdale, has worked as a reporter or columnist in South Florida since 1976.

ad in the Palm Beach Post: "3 mos recent & verifiable exp in fine dining/country club. No tips." The cryptic ad, which ran twice, listed no email address, mailing address or phone number. Applicants were instructed to apply by fax.

Yet Trump's outsize sympathy for employers, like himself, in need of cheap, unskilled foreign labor doesn't extend to tech-sector companies in desperate want of scientists, researchers, software engineers, programmers, systems analysts and the like. For 16 years in a row, U.S. tech companies have bumped up against the annual limit of H-1B visas for highly skilled foreign workers.

On April 6, the Trump administration announced that the employers had reached the 65,000 annual limit on H-1B visas, along with the 20,000 visas allocated for applicants with advanced degrees. Meanwhile, the administration has been larding visa requirements with new bureaucratic obstacles, adding months of uncertainty to the process. So much so, that Canada instituted an opportunistic fast-track visa approval program for techies and has been happily filching talent that would have otherwise gone to U.S. firms.

But never mind those sneaky Canadians. The president has done a bang-up job protecting our strategic advantage in Romanian cooks.

Trump's NATO hostility is a GOP tradition

In the new superhero movie "Incredibles 2," the baby, Jack-Jack, freaks out his family when he morphs into a destructive demon. NATO members who have been on the receiving end of Donald Trump's blasts as he prepared for a summit in Brussels — "we're schmucks for paying for the whole thing" — seem to view the president with similar emotions.

Trump's jabs about defense spending, immigration and trade already have prompted thousands to protest against him in Brussels. The president of Germany's Federal Academy for Security Policy, Karl-Heinz Kamp, observed that members of the 29-nation alliance must now realize they are dealing with an "unpredictable and obviously mentally impaired American president."

From a historical perspective, Trump's hostility toward NATO should hardly come as a shock. His language is in temperate, but it's also reminiscent of the deep skepticism toward liberal internationalism long championed by many in the Republican Party.

The first portent of the GOP's opposition to international organizations came with the debate over the League of Nations, when Woodrow Wilson championed American entry in 1919. Wilson's crusade was defeated by Republican Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge, who led a faction known as the irrecconcilables. They based their opposition on Article 10 of the treaty, which called for the defense of a member that experienced external aggression. Lodge argued that Article 10 would subordinate the U.S. military to the whims of an international organization, thereby eviscerating the constitutional role of Congress in formally declaring war.

Lodge, who also played a key role in promoting legislation drastically restricting immigration to America, said that he was for — you guessed it — America first: "I can never be anything else but an American, and I must think of the United States first, and when I think of the United States first

in an arrangement like this, I am thinking of what is best for the world."

The original America First movement began as a liberal endeavor at Yale University, advocated by students who wanted to avoid a repetition of the insensate slaughter of the innocent during World War I. But it was quickly hijacked by the right. Almost overnight it curdled into an anti-Semitic, isolationist organization.

Republicans didn't specifically endorse isolationism, but the party was steeped in it. Two of its foreign policy heavyweights, Henry Stimson and Frank Knox, were ousted at the June 1940 GOP convention in Philadelphia for the apostasy of serving in the Roosevelt administration. That month the Republican oracle, the Wall Street Journal, demanded "realism" toward Nazi Germany, which, it decreed, had "already determined the broad lines of our national life for at least another generation."

After World War II, NATO itself was anathema to mossback Republicans. Once again, Republican senators were transfixed by the military implications. Sen. Robert Taft — known as "Mr. Republican" — voted against joining the alliance in 1949. He argued that by encircling Russia, NATO would create a self-fulfilling prophecy of war with the then-Soviet Union. The United States, he said, could not afford to become a Sir Galahad protecting the rest of the world.

Taft sounded more diplomatic than Trump does, but his position wasn't far from a White House tweet: "We cannot adopt a foreign policy which gives away all of our people's earnings or imposes such a tremendous burden on the individual American as, in effect, to destroy his incentive and his ability to increase production and productivity and his standard of living."

Others shared Taft's opposition to alliances in Europe. His Republican colleague Forrest C. Donnell set off a "land mine" at the time, according to then-Secretary of State Dean

By JACOB HEILBRUNN
Los Angeles Times



Jacob Heilbrunn is editor of the National Interest.






Acheson in his memoir "Present at the Creation." Donnell went into a lather about Article V of the NATO charter, much as Trump does today. It calls upon member states to come to the assistance of the others if attacked, the very issue on which American membership in the League of Nations faltered. With Soviet aggression palpable in Eastern Europe, President Truman quashed the budding debate over the implications of the clause.

Even during the Cold War, the right never jettisoned its suspicion of liberal internationalism. Organizations such as the United Nations, the Trilateral Commission and the Council on Foreign Relations were depicted in the right-wing press as nefarious cabals intent on subverting American sovereignty and independence to create a Marxist-led world government. A direct line can be drawn from these conspiracy theories to Trump's bluster about a deep state subverting his presidency and undermining the will of the American people.

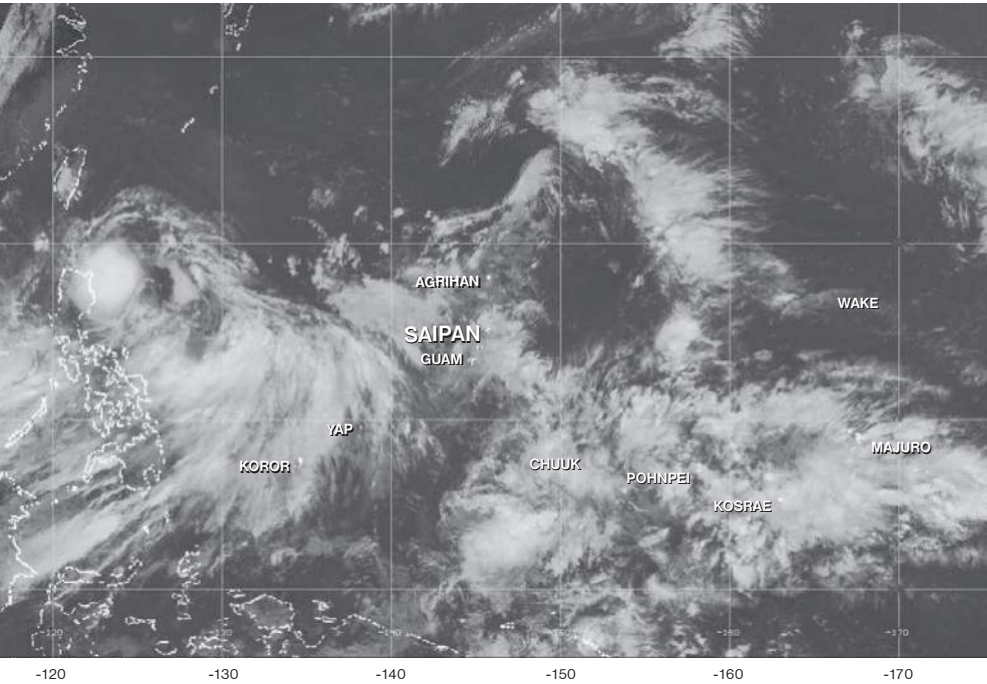
The difference is that in the years after World War II and through the Cold War, Republican presidents from Dwight Eisenhower to George H.W. Bush firmly relegated the conspiracy theorists and the foes of international alliances to the fringes of the GOP. Trump's administration has made them mainstream. Once revived — and nurtured — these demons from the past will not be easy to exorcise.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲89° ▼78°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 12:26 PM, MONDAY, JULY 16, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Showers and thunderstorms are evident just southeast of Guam and continuing to move into the area as a surface trough approaches from the southeast. A broad monsoon trough extends to the south of Guam from newly-formed TD 11W just east of Luzon. Another circulation is found within the monsoon trough near 15N133E. A broad upper-level low is centered to the north near 24N147E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	87° / 79°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	87° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	84° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	84° / 75°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	84° / 75°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85° / 80°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	57° / 46°	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	91° / 77°	
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	90° / 81°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 77°	
London	Mostly Cloudy	75° / 57°	
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	82° / 69°	
Manila	Thunderstorm	82° / 79°	
Melbourne	Windy	59° / 48°	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	88° / 80°	
New York	Thunderstorm	87° / 70°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	97° / 81°	
Paris	Partly Cloudy	79° / 59°	
Busan	Sunny	90° / 77°	
Rome	Partly Cloudy	88° / 68°	
Salem	Thunderstorm	87° / 72°	
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	64° / 55°	
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	90° / 73°	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	93° / 81°	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	90° / 72°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
5:12 AM	LOW TIDE	0.93	
10:07 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.86	
5:13 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.21	
11:59 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.03	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:55 AM	6:51 PM
Wednesday	5:55 AM	6:50 PM
Thursday	5:55 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:56 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:56 AM	6:50 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	9:52 AM	10:32 PM	-
Wednesday	10:49 AM	11:16 PM	-
Thursday	11:43 AM	11:58 PM	-
Friday	12:35 PM	-	-
Saturday	-	12:39 AM	1:26 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily	UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7	7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5	7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1	OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7	OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)				HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1	JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4	JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN	UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
U043	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7	U042	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	U042	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
				UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily	1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily	1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily	1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily	1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily	1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily	TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
ROTA TO GUAM				FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily	2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA				2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily	2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
				2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
				2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

AT DIVING & RESORT TRAVEL EXPO

Marianas wins best Eagle Ray Watching Spot award

Add "Best Eagle Ray Watching Spot" to the growing list of international accolades for The Marianas.

The string of 14 islands was recently awarded the recognition at the 2018 Diving & Resort Travel (DRT) Taiwan Expo held on June 22-24, 2018, in Taipei,

Taiwan.

"Anyone who spends any time on the water in The Marianas, whether diving, snorkeling, boating, or even just walking on the beach is going to have an eagle ray encounter sooner or later," said MVA Managing Director Christopher A. Concepcion. "The establishment of

several marine conservation areas in recent years has been a step in the right direction for ensuring that our vibrant sea life and underwater resources are sustained for residents and visitors, alike. We welcome divers to observe these incredible creatures at our famous Eagle Ray City and other sites throughout The Marianas."

The DRT show is the largest such expo

in Asia and hosts dive expos in several locations in Asia including Hong Kong, Shang-

hai, Beijing, Guangzhou, Taiwan, Philippines and Ma-

laysia. In general, DRT expo hosts about seven dive shows each year with about 960 exhibitors from 50 countries and 90,000 visitors from 65 countries each year.

2018 DRT Taiwan attracted nearly 29,000 people, a majority of whom attended various seminars at the show, including two presentations by Marianas Ocean Tourism ambassador Yorko Summer, highlighted by videos and photos of The Marianas.

"This is a successful diving show because it attracted thousands of people to the MVA booth who asked for diving information," said Summer. "Anyone who came into the expo was our target audience."

At their exhibition booth, the MVA answered consumer questions, distributed diving and other information about The Marianas, met with industry VIPs, and screened informational videos of the destination. In addition, a Marianas Ocean Celebration was held to showcase Ambassador Summer's new promotional video and photography work done in The Marianas. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Marianas Ocean Tourism ambassador Yorko Summer presents photos and videos about The Marianas at the 2018 Diving & Resort Travel Taiwan show on June 22-24, 2018, in Taipei, Taiwan.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Marianas receives the award for Best Eagle Ray Watching Spot at the 2018 Diving & Resort Travel Taiwan show on June 22-24, 2018, in Taipei, Taiwan.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Some of the nearly 29,000 visitors to the 2018 Diving & Resort Travel Taiwan show on June 22-24, 2018, in Taipei, Taiwan visit The Marianas booth to learn more about the destination.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Marianas Visitors Authority joins the 2018 Diving & Resort Travel Taiwan show on June 22-24, 2018, in Taipei, Taiwan. The show is one of the largest dive and resort expo in Asia. Picture from left are MVA Taiwan PR & Marketing manager Steven Cheng, MVA Taiwan In-country manager Milane Tsai, Marianas Ocean Tourism ambassador Yorko Summer, 2018 Intern to the Marianas winner Ming Chen, and MVA Marketing specialist Laura Hsiao.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
MVA hosts a Marianas Ocean Celebration at the 2018 Diving Resort Travel Taiwan show on June 22-24, 2018, in Taipei, Taiwan. From left are MVA Taiwan PR & Marketing manager Steven Cheng, MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion, MVA Taiwan In-country manager Milane Tsai, MVA Marketing specialist Laura Hsiao, Marianas Ocean Tourism ambassador Yorko Summer, 2018 Intern to the Marianas winner Ming Chen, and 2017 Intern to the Marianas winner Sherry Lin.

MARIANAS

US Navy Health Command visits GRMC

DEDEDO, Guam—Leadership team members of Navy Medicine West and U.S. Naval Hospital Guam recently visited Guam Regional Medical City to discuss capabilities, patient loads and partnership opportunities. The Navy Medicine West team, headquartered at Naval Base San Diego, California, is led by Rear Admiral Paul D. Pearigen, who serves as commander, Navy Medicine West, and the chief of the Navy Medical Corps. The Navy Medicine West team was on Guam to attend the USNH change of command ceremony for retiring Commanding Officer, Captain Dan Cornwell, and new Commanding Officer, Captain Maria Young.

"The staff at Guam Regional Medical City was very welcoming and I appreciated the opportunity to visit their hospital and learn more about their capabilities and services," said Rear Admiral Pearigen. "Having a collaborative relationship with local health



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Capt. Timothy H. Weber, chief of staff at Navy Medicine West; CMDM Loren Rucker, command master chief at Navy Medicine West; Dr. Felix Cabrera, chief medical officer at GRMC; Rear Admiral Paul Pearigen, commander at Navy Medicine West and Chief of the Navy Medical Corps; Capt. Maria Young, new commanding officer at USNH Guam; Dr. Michael Cruz, president and chief operating officer at GRMC; Capt. Steven Kewish, executive officer at USNH Guam; MCPO Sergio Jardon, command master chief at USNH Guam.

care providers ensures that our beneficiaries have access to a broader range of medical care and services."

Dr. Michael Cruz, president and chief operating officer at GRMC, expressed appreciation for the collaborative rela-

tionship between USNH and GRMC. "GRMC's world class medical services provide the U.S. military on Guam with an

alternative to sending service-members and their dependents off island for specialized medical care," said Cruz. The relationship is expected to grow as the military buildup on Guam is primarily taking place within a few miles of GRMC.

According to GRMC, the hospital had more than 100,000 patient visits since opening its doors on July 1, 2015, and approximately 9,000 of those visits were from soldiers, veterans, and their dependents. GRMC officials also pointed out that the hospital will soon be part of the largest medical campus in the Western Pacific when construction of the six-building Latte Medical Plaza is completed by local developer, Cesar Cabot, on the property adjacent to GRMC.

Navy Medicine West leads Navy Medicine's Western Pacific health care system and global research and development enterprise. Throughout the region, NMW provides medical care to nearly 700,000

beneficiaries across 10 naval hospitals, two dental battalions, and 51 branch clinics located throughout the West Coast of the U.S., Asia, and the Pacific. Globally, NMW also has oversight of eight research laboratories across the U.S. and overseas that deliver high-value, high-impact research products to support and protect the health and readiness of service members.

GRMC is a 136-bed acute care hospital, offering world-class medical care to the residents of Guam as well as the CNMI, FSM, Palau and the Marshall Islands. GRMC is committed to improving the well-being of the people of Micronesia by tailoring its services to the health care needs of the people who live here. That means being a center of excellence for cardiac care, advanced stroke care, comprehensive cancer care, and by providing a variety of treatments for diabetes and other diseases. GRMC's core philosophy is "Patients Are Partners." (PR)

Bordallo introduces AMBER Alert bill for missing children in US territories

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-Guam) introduced the AMBER Alert Nationwide Act (H.R.6350). This bipartisan bill authorizes federal funding to integrate U.S. territories into the national AMBER Alert system, which mobilizes the American public in response to cases of missing, abducted, or exploited children.

The bill's cosponsors are Congresswomen Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen (R-AS) and Stacey E. Plaskett (D-USVI) and Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (Ind-MP).

H.R.6350 is also supported by the nonprofit National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

The 2003 federal law establishing the national AMBER Alert system did not provide federal funding for all U.S. territories to implement AMBER Alerts. Only the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, which each have sections of the federal interstate highway system, were provided this funding that was available to the 50 states.

Bordallo's AMBER Alert Nationwide Act would direct the U.S. Department of Justice (coordinating agency for national AMBER Alert program) and the U.S. Department of Transportation to provide federal grant funding to help all U.S. territories implement the AMBER Alert program, on a voluntary basis.

The congresswoman's bipartisan bill would also provide flexibility for the territo-

ries in using this new federal grant funding and authorize federal funding for AMBER Alerts signage and similar public communication systems in major transportation hubs such as airports, maritime ports, customs checkpoints, and other ports of exits. Current federal law limits federal AMBER Alert grants to signage along roadways only.

Bordallo's bill seeks to make AMBER Alert a truly nationwide system, building upon the Ashlynn Mike AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act, signed into law in April 2018. The Congresswoman's bill will enable law enforcement to better interdict cases where children from U.S. territories are abducted and attempted to be brought aboard illegally, without the consent of both parents or legal guardians.

"Our bill will protect Guam's children, and all children in the territories, under the national AMBER Alert system. The new federal funding provided by our bill will help the Guam Police and Fire Departments better train for and respond to cases of missing and abducted children," said Bordallo.

"A truly nationwide AMBER Alert system must include Guam and all U.S. territories, and that's exactly what our bill does. Congress just expanded AMBER Alert to include Indian reservations and tribal law enforcement agencies, and we should finish the job by passing my bipartisan bill this year," continued Bordallo. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

GRANTS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The CNMI PSS Personal Responsibility Education Program hosted a Grants Management Essentials training for Administrative Professionals and Coordinators. The two-day training was conducted by Regina Ann Torres Jacobs, HISYNC Program coordinator of Hawaii Youth Services Network and Darlene Du Bral, director of Training and Technical Assistance of HYSN. Participants engaged in discussion and activities focused on the elements of maintaining and upholding goals specific to a grant. Front row; left to right: Fidelia Ruben, Darlene Du Bral, Regina Ann Torres Jacobs, and Crispin Deleon Guerrero. Back row; left to right: Lorraine Catienza, Patricia Aguon-Cruz, Giselle Butalid, Evonne Cabrera, JP Indalecio, Elizabeth Aguon, Brandon Nicholas, Jacqueline Reyes, Frances Ulloa, and Jocelyn Itibus.

Bank of Guam wins silver for Corporate Social Responsibility

HAGATNA, Guam—Bank of Guam was hailed for its Corporate Social Responsibility efforts at the 2018 Asian Banking & Finance Retail Banking Awards held July 12, 2018. Bank of Guam earned the Corporate Social Responsibility of the Year—Silver award for its high school financial literacy programs and the 2017 Life Teen Expo.

Bank of Guam is Guam's leader in financial literacy efforts. Its high school financial simulation program, "Mad City Money," was launched in October 2016 and has

reached over 2,100 high school students, 16 schools throughout Guam, Saipan and Palau and five organizations. Since 2004, the bank has also led local efforts twice a year for "National Teach Children to Save" and "Get Smart About Credit," which are financial literacy programs developed by the American Bankers Association targeted elementary, middle and high school students.

In its 13th year, the Asian Banking & Finance Retail Banking Awards recognizes banks all over Asia that stand

out with groundbreaking products and services. Winners are chosen by a venerated panel of judges from Deloitte, Ernst & Young Advisory, KPMG and PwC South East Asia Consulting.

Bank of Guam has won awards from Mercomm Annual Report Competition (international) and from American Bankers Association Market-ing (national).

Acting president Maria Eugenia H. Leon Guerrero lauded the Bank's efforts stating, "Our Bank was started 46 years ago to provide opportu-

nity to our local community. A big part of that is promoting financial literacy and awareness at all levels, particularly our children. Today, Bank of Guam's community outreach and financial literacy efforts are unmatched as our employees continue to make a difference in the lives of young adults throughout our region. We are humbled to receive such recognition from an esteemed panel of judges."

For more information, please contact Jackie Marati at (671) 472-5258 or jackie.marati@bankofguam.com. (PR)

Business

EU official urges Trump, Putin not to destroy global order

BEIJING (AP)—A senior European Union official on Monday urged President Donald Trump, Russian President Vladimir Putin and China to work with Europe to avoid trade wars and prevent conflict and chaos.

European Council President Donald Tusk was speaking in Beijing at the opening of a summit between China and the European Union, just hours ahead of a summit between Trump and Putin in Helsinki.

"We are all aware of the fact that the architecture of the world is changing before our very eyes and it is our common responsibility to make it a change for the better," Tusk said.

Last week, Tusk lambasted Trump's constant criticism of European allies and urged him to remember who his friends are when he meets Putin. In



AP
European Council President Donald Tusk, right speaks near European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker during a meeting with Chinese Premier Li Keqiang, unseen at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China, Monday, July 16, 2018.

to "safeguard free trade" and the global multilateral regulatory system. He endorsed efforts to update World Trade Organization rules that Washington complains are outdated and cumbersome.

Asked whether China used Monday's meeting to try to form an alliance with the EU against Washington, Li said the U.S.-Chinese dispute was a bilateral matter for Beijing and Washington to solve.

"Our summit is not directed at any third country," said Li at a joint news conference.

Chinese leaders have tried without success to recruit German, France and other governments as allies against Washington.

"We see a China that is seeking alliances as countermeasures to the U.S. actions," the president of the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China, Mats Harborn, said last week.

European leaders criticize President Donald Trump's tactics but share U.S. complaints about Chinese industrial policies and trade barriers.

Beijing, Tusk said that Europe, China, the U.S. and Russia had a "common duty" not to destroy the global order but to improve it by reforming international trade rules.

"This is why I am calling on our Chinese hosts, but also on presidents Trump and Putin, to jointly start this process from a thorough reform of the WTO," Tusk earlier said, referring to the World Trade Organization by its acronym. "There is still time to prevent conflict and chaos."

Washington imposed 25

percent tariffs on \$34 billion of goods in response to complaints that Beijing is hurting American companies by stealing or pressuring enterprises to hand over technology. It has also applied tariffs on imported steel and aluminum from allies like Canada, Mexico and the European Union. The 28-country EU bloc has responded with import taxes on \$3.25 billion of U.S. goods.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said Monday that China and the EU had agreed to take steps

When sexual harassment becomes office gossip

Q: After being sexually harassed by one of our top managers for several months, I finally told my boss what was going on. He insisted that we talk with human resources, even though I was somewhat reluctant to do so.

The HR manager listened to my story and assured me that I would have confidentiality and protection. However, the whole office now seems to know about my complaint, so I don't believe she was honest with me. Shouldn't this have been handled differently?

A: Being sexually harassed at work, especially by someone with a lot of power, is a horrible experience. And if the details are on the grapevine, that's even worse. Unfortunately, however, this outcome may not have been fully preventable.

Your supervisor actually had no choice about taking your concerns to HR. Employers with 15 or more employees are legally required to address harassment claims, and all managers are considered legal representatives of the business. So once your boss knew about this issue, he was obligated to report it.

Upon receiving such a complaint, the HR department is legally required to investigate. To obtain complete information, they must talk with the alleged offender and any relevant witnesses. Although everyone involved should be firmly instructed to keep conversations confidential,

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By **MARIE G. MCINTYRE**
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.



tial, information has a way of leaking out.

In your case, the real problem seems to be that these legalities were explained poorly or not at all. While your boss and HR manager can guarantee their own silence, assuring complete confidentiality in a sexual harassment investigation is virtually impossible. Nevertheless, reporting your harasser was certainly the right thing to do.

Q: Several years ago, I took early retirement to look after my elderly parents. Now that I no longer have caregiving responsibilities, I've begun to think about returning to work. Because I like to stay busy, being a full-time retiree is extremely boring.

I've considered volunteering, but those assignments can be tedious. A part-time position would be fine, since I would enjoy having time to pursue other interests. However, I'm afraid no employer will hire someone who has been out of the workforce for so long. Do you have any suggestions?

A: People work to fulfill

many needs — financial security, accomplishment, social interaction, mental stimulation, sense of purpose or just having some place to go. So before jumping into a job search, take the time to carefully consider what's most important to you.

Having clarified your primary motives, you can then establish some specific criteria for your desired job, such as interesting problems to solve or frequent communication with colleagues. As a final step, you might also add preferred working conditions, like a particular schedule or a short commute.

With a clear set of parameters, appropriate positions should be easier to identify. Online searching provides a simple way to explore possibilities, but active networking will increase your odds of getting hired. A positive personal impression can make your lengthy job gap seem less relevant.

Finally, if money isn't a consideration, don't rule out volunteer work. If you can find a cause that inspires you, that might be a very rewarding choice.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Average price of US gas slips a penny, to \$2.94 a gallon

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP)—The average price of regular-grade gasoline in the U.S. fell a penny a gallon over the past three weeks to \$2.94. Industry analyst Trilby Lundberg of the Lundberg Survey said Sunday that the average price is 63 cents higher than it was one year ago. Lundberg says prices at the pump may continue to slip slightly, due in part to weak gasoline demand caused by the higher prices. The highest average price in the contiguous 48 states was \$3.74 in the San Francisco Bay Area. The lowest was \$2.52 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

WeWork takes meat off the menu at company events

NEW YORK (AP)—Office space sharing company WeWork says it is no longer serving red or white meat at company events. In an email to employees Thursday, co-

founder and Chief Creative Officer Miguel McKelvey said the company won't serve pork, poultry or red meat, and it won't allow employees to expense meals that include those meats to the company. Fish will stay on the menu. McKelvey said the change means WeWork will use less water and produce less carbon dioxide as well as saving the lives of animals. The company said employees are welcome to bring whatever food they want to work. The policy is effective immediately and also applies to the company's Summer Camp gathering in the United Kingdom in August. McKelvey wrote that WeWork could save 10,000 animals by eliminating meat at the upcoming Summer Camp event. It has 6,000 employees and some 5,000 attended the event in 2017.

Toys, eyeglasses, cellphones surface in Ohio sewer system

CINCINNATI (AP)—Workers in a metropolitan sewer

district in Ohio have amassed an impressive collection of toys, eyeglasses and other objects that made their way through the sewer system. The Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati provides wastewater collection and treatment for businesses and residents in Hamilton County and small portions of adjacent Butler, Warren and Clermont counties. Its combined sewer system takes in water from storm drains and sanitary sewers. WVXU radio in Cincinnati reports that most of the water cycling through Hamilton County eventually ends up at the district's Mill Creek Station, where solid items are stopped by bar screens and transferred to a conveyor belt. Brad Blankenship, a plant supervisor at the station, says items including balls, cellphones, credit cards and watches have been found. Blankenship and co-workers grab the interesting finds and add the sanitized objects to a shelf in the plant.

Nation

Deadly fire shuts down key route to Yosemite National Park

MARIPOSA, Calif. (AP)—A wildfire that killed a California firefighter grew quickly and forced the closure of a key route into Yosemite National Park as crews contended with sweltering conditions Sunday, authorities said.

The blaze that broke out Friday scorched more than 6 square miles (16 square kilometers) of dry brush along steep, remote hillsides on the park's western edge. It was burning largely out of control, and officials shut off electricity to many areas, including Yosemite Valley, as a safety precaution.

Guests were ordered to leave Yosemite Cedar Lodge on Saturday as flames crept up slopes and the air became thick with smoke.

"You can't see anything, it's so smoky outside. It's crazy," said front desk clerk Spencer Arebalo, one of a handful of employees who stayed behind at the popular hotel inside the park.

He said it was surreal to see the property empty at the height of tourist season.

"We're counting on being closed at least one more day," Arebalo said.

Evacuations also were ordered in rural communities just outside the park, and people in nearby lodges and



motels were told to be ready to leave if flames approach. A stretch of State Route 140 into Yosemite was closed, and motorists were urged to find alternate routes.

Spiking temperatures and inaccessible terrain was making it difficult for crews to slow the flames, U.S. Forest Service fire Capt. Mike Seymour said.

Heavy fire equipment operator Braden Varney, 36, died early Saturday on the fire line, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection said. Varney was driving a bulldozer to create a gap in vegetation to keep the flames from extending into a nearby community, according to Cal Fire Chief Nancy Koerperich.

Varney's body likely won't

be retrieved until Monday at the earliest because it's in a "precarious location" and conditions were too dangerous over the weekend, Cal Fire Deputy Chief Scott McLean said.

The wildfire is one of several burning across the state and among 56 large blazes that are active in the U.S., most in the American West, a

region that is struggling with drought and heat.

A blaze near the California-Oregon border that killed a 72-year-old resident and injured three firefighters was almost entirely contained after burning more than 60 square miles (155 square kilometers) of dry brush.

Crews got full control over a stubborn fire that scorched

AP
A plane battling the Ferguson Fire passes the setting sun in unincorporated Mariposa County Calif., near Yosemite National Park on Sunday, July 15, 2018.

142 square miles (368 square kilometers) of brush and destroyed 20 structures in Yolo and Napa counties. Investigators said an electric livestock fence that was improperly installed sparked the flames.

In the fire near Yosemite, investigators were trying to find out more details about Varney's death Saturday, but they believe he was working his way out of the fire area when he was killed, Koerperich said.

"This certainly is going to be devastating to his family and those of us who call him family here with Cal Fire," she said.

Varney had worked for Cal Fire for 10 years. His father also worked as a Cal Fire heavy equipment operator. He is survived by his wife, Jessica; daughter Malhea, 5; and son Nolan, 3.

Gov. Jerry Brown ordered flags at the California Capitol to be flown at half-staff to honor "a man who dedicated his life to protecting his fellow Californians."

Police: Suspect dead after wounding 3 Kansas City officers

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—A gunman being investigated in the killing of a university student from India shot and wounded three Kansas City police officers Sunday before dying in an exchange of gunfire with police, authorities said.

The three officers' wounds were not life-threatening, police said.

The suspect, whose name has not been released, had been identified as a person of interest in the slaying of Sharath Koppu and officers had him under surveillance, according to police. Koppu, 25, was a master's degree student from India who was studying at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Koppu was shot on July 6 during an armed robbery at a fast food restaurant in Kansas City where he worked.

Jagdeesh Subramanian, president of the India Association of Kansas City, said the group is grateful to police for pursuing Koppu's shooting diligently and that "there is some closure" with the person of interest's death.

"We are equally disheart-

ened hearing about the three officers who were shot in pursuit," Subramanian said in a statement. "Our thoughts and prayers are with them for a speedy recovery."

The man being sought by police in relation to Koppu's death opened fire Sunday afternoon on officers with a semi-automatic "AK-47-type" rifle as they conducted an investigation at a motel less than 2 miles (3 kilometers) from Kauffman Stadium, where the Kansas City Royals baseball team plays, police spokesman Sgt. Jake Becchina told The Associated Press. Two officers were wounded in that gunfire.

Police had been looking for the man all week, Kansas City police Chief Rick Smith told reporters in a video posted online by KCTV.

"This is the first time we laid eyes on him," Smith said.

After shooting the two officers, the man fled in a vehicle with another person, Becchina said. Police took the vehicle and placed the other person in custody, though Becchina said that individual isn't believed to be involved in the fatal robbery or the

shootings of the officers.

The gunman remained at large until about an hour or so later, when he opened fire at officers from inside a house where he had barricaded himself a short distance from the motel, police said. A detective was shot.

"We didn't know he was there. He just popped up all of a sudden," Smith said.

Becchina said about 15 minutes later, the man emerged from the home and again opened fire. Officers fired back, fatally wounding him.

Koppu, the university student who was killed in the shooting that police were investigating, was a software engineer who came from India to the United States in January, according to a GoFundMe page set up by his family. Raghu Chowdavaram, a cousin, told The Kansas City Star newspaper after Koppu's death that Koppu was a "perfect gentleman" who wouldn't hurt anyone.

Subramanian said the robbery and fatal shooting of Koppu appeared random and unfortunately "could have happened to anybody."

Trump wish for warm Putin ties highlights policy disconnect

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump's persistence in pursuing friendly ties with Vladimir Putin has highlighted a growing disconnect within his administration over Russia policy. Trump speaks fondly of Putin and a desire for better relations with Moscow, but the rest of his executive branch remains highly critical and deeply suspicious of the Russian president and the Kremlin's intentions.

The stark contrast in approaches has been thrown into sharp relief as Trump and Putin prepare for their summit in Finland on Monday, amid unrelenting criticism of Russia from Trump's State Department, Justice Department, Treasury Department and Defense Department.

That might be explained as a good cop-bad cop strategy with Russia. But the mixed messaging has left America's friends and allies confused, particularly after a contentious NATO summit where Trump questioned the value of the alliance that Putin has long denounced and sought to weaken.

Just three days before the Helsinki summit, the Justice Department announced the indictment of 12 Russian intelligence officers in special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Moscow's meddling in the 2016 U.S. presidential election. That brings to 25 the number of Russians charged in the investigation. Trump has denied any collusion with Russia and has repeatedly cited Putin's denials of any Russian interference in the campaign, suggesting there is little or nothing he can do to demand accountability. The Kremlin has denied that the Russian state interfered in the election.

The indictments were unsealed just hours after Trump again referred to Mueller's inquiry as a "witch hunt" and after the president told reporters at a news conference with British Prime Minister Theresa May, "I think I would have a very good relationship with Putin if we spend time together."

A day earlier in Brussels, Trump did say he would raise the election issue with

Putin, but also said: "I don't think you'll have any 'Gee, I did it, I did it. You got me!' There won't be Perry Mason here, I don't think. But I will absolutely, firmly ask the question."

Trump also has expressed little interest in continuing the harsh U.S. criticism of Russian activities in Syria, Ukraine and elsewhere, and of Russia's human rights record. In fact, he's raised doubts about U.S. demands for Russia to return to Ukraine the territory of Crimea it annexed in 2014, and has suggested a bargain could be in the works for Russia's ally Bashar Assad to remain in power indefinitely in Syria.

Contrast that with the messaging of the State Department.

Under Trump, the department has issued regular stinging critiques of Russia, including on human rights and press freedom. Those have been sustained since former CIA Director Mike Pompeo was installed as top U.S. diplomat in April and despite the president's growing calls for friendship with Putin.

Asia

Moon presses Trump, Kim for breakthrough in nuclear talks

SINGAPORE (AP)—South Korean President Moon Jae-in on Friday urged President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to try harder to achieve a breakthrough in their nuclear negotiations.

Moon said at a forum in Singapore that Trump and Kim would “face the stern judgment of the international community” if their promises on denuclearization weren’t kept.

Singapore was the host of a historic summit between Trump and Kim last month when they agreed to work toward the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, without describing when and how it would occur.

Follow-up talks between U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and North Korean senior officials had a rocky start with Pyongyang accusing Washington of making “unilateral and gangster-like” demands.

Pyongyang for decades has been pushing a concept of “denuclearization” that bears no resemblance to the American definition, vowing to pursue nuclear development unless Washington removes its

28,500 troops from South Korea and the nuclear umbrella defending South Korea and Japan.

Despite Kim’s diplomatic onslaught in recent months, doubts linger whether he would ever agree to fully relinquish his nukes, which he may see as a stronger guarantee of survival than whatever security assurance the United States could offer.

Moon, who has met with Kim twice this year and lobbied hard for the summit between Trump and Kim, said he remains optimistic of a deal.

“Both leaders have made a promise in front of the international community, so while there could be twists and turns during the working-level negotiations, I think the leaders ultimately will be able to keep their promise,” Moon said. “If the leaders don’t keep the promise they directly made in front of the international community, they would face the stern judgment of the international community.”

Trump suggested Friday that getting North Korea to disarm



Moon

will take longer than anyone would like. Speaking at a news conference while in Britain alongside Prime Minister Theresa May, Trump said “good things are happening,” citing a halt in the North’s missile and nuclear tests and

the demolishing of a testing site.

But the president added: “It’s a process. It’s probably a longer process than anybody would like, but I’m used to long processes, too. We haven’t taken off the sanctions, the sanctions are biting.”

Moon said his view is that Washington and Pyongyang have reached a broad agreement where North Korea completes its nuclear disarmament in exchange for the United States guaranteeing the country’s security and ending hostility in mutual relations.

“During the working-level negotiations, there could be debates on whether the chicken or egg should come first, and the countries could also go through a number of difficult phases,” Moon said.

Duterte pressed to assert arbitration victory vs China

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte came under renewed pressure Thursday to seek Chinese compliance to an arbitration ruling that invalidated China’s claims to much of the South China Sea two years ago but has been ignored by Beijing and remains unenforced.

Former Philippine Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario, who spearheaded the arbitration suit, called China a “grand larcenist” for pressing its territorial claims despite the July 12, 2016, decision and labeled the Philippines a “willing victim” for allowing such defiance.

The ruling invalidated China’s historical claims to virtually the entire waterway, but Beijing refused to acknowledge it or join the arbitration proceedings held by a tribunal in The Hague under the 1982 U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Duterte, who has nurtured close ties with China after rising to power in 2016, has not sought immediate Chinese compliance to the landmark ruling but has vowed to discuss the decision with Beijing at some point in his six-year

presidency.

Critics say he has been far too soft on China, but he and his officials say his approach has fostered talks aimed at resolving the disputes, eased tensions and won concessions, including a Chinese decision to stop blocking Filipino fishermen from a disputed shoal.

The United States and other Western governments have backed the arbitration approach as a peaceful, international law-based avenue to resolve the long-raging disputes.

“The Philippines has had two years to take advantage of its position to develop and obtain the support of many countries whose principles are aligned with our own and with whom our own voice could be magnified,” del Rosario said in a forum, which marked the second year since the ruling was issued.

“Sadly, however, this was not made to happen,” he said.

Presidential spokesman Harry Roque dismissed del Rosario’s remarks. “We will continue to assert what is ours while we move on with our bilateral relations with China,” he said.

Vice President Leni Robredo told the forum that “China’s encroachment on Philippine territories is the most serious external threat to our country since World War II,” but she added that the arbitration case by Manila against Beijing “proved that in keeping peace, the rule of law is a much more potent force than the rule of arms and battleships.”

Dozens of protesters rallied at the Chinese consulate to mark the ruling’s anniversary, yelling “China, get out.” Unidentified people hung banners labeling the Philippines a province of China, but police were deployed to remove the banners.

The South China Sea has some of the world’s busiest sea lanes and is believed to be rich in natural gas and oil. China’s claims to most of the sea overlap with those by Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Taiwan and Brunei. It built up some of the disputed reefs to make islands and has reportedly deployed anti-ship missiles, surface-to-air missiles, electronic jammers and other equipment on those islands, arguing it has a right to build up defenses on its sovereign territory.

World

BEFORE PUTIN SUMMIT

Trump names EU as global foe, raps media

HELSINKI (AP)—President Donald Trump named the European Union as a top adversary of the United States and denounced the news media as the “enemy of the people” before arriving in Helsinki on Sunday on the eve of his high-stakes summit with Russia’s Vladimir Putin.

Trump and his top aides were downplaying expectations for Monday’s summit as Trump continued to rattle allies by lumping in the EU with Russia and China after barnstorming across Europe, causing chaos at the recent NATO summit and in a trip to the United Kingdom.

Trump spent the weekend in Scotland at his resort in Turnberry, golfing, tweeting and granting an interview to CBS News in which he named the EU, a bloc of nations that includes many of America’s closest allies, at the top of his list of biggest global foes.

“I think the European Union is a foe, what they do to us in trade,” Trump said, adding that “you wouldn’t think of the European Union, but they’re a foe.”

He said that Russia is a foe “in certain respects” and that China is a foe “economically ... but that doesn’t mean they are bad. It doesn’t mean anything. It means that they are



AP
U.S. President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump are greeted by Frank Pence, second from the left, U.S. Ambassador to Finland and his wife Suzy Pence, far left, on the tarmac upon their arrival at the airport in Helsinki, Finland, Sunday, July 15, 2018.

competitive.”

Trump has been reluctant to criticize Putin over the years and has described him in recent days not as an enemy but as a competitor.

On Sunday, Trump flew to Finland, the final stop on a weeklong trip that began last Tuesday. Near Trump’s hotel, police roped off a group of about 60 mostly male pro-Trump demonstrators waving American flags. Big banners said “Welcome Trump” and “God Bless D & M Trump” and a helicopter hovered overhead.

Chants of “We love Trump, We love Trump” broke out

as the president’s motorcade passed, and Trump waved.

Trump set expectations for the summit low, telling CBS News, “I don’t expect anything. ... I go in with very low expectations.” His national security adviser said they weren’t looking for any “concrete deliverables.”

He also said in the interview taped Saturday that he “hadn’t thought” about asking Putin to extradite the dozen Russian military intelligence officers indicted this past week in Washington on charges related to the hacking of Democratic targets in the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

Cease-fire holds after day of intense Israel-Hamas fighting

JERUSALEM (AP)—The Israeli military lifted its restrictions along the Gaza border Sunday, indicating it had accepted an Egypt-mediated cease-fire that ended a 24-hour round of fighting with Hamas militants that had threatened to devolve into all-out war.

The military had shut down a popular beach and placed limitations on large gatherings as residents kept mostly close to home on Saturday amid dozens of rockets that were fired from Gaza. But after several hours of calm it said residents could resume their daily routines.

On Saturday, the military carried out its largest wave of airstrikes in Gaza since the 2014 war, hitting several Hamas military compounds and flattening a number of its training camps. Two Palestinian teenagers were

killed in an airstrike in Gaza City, while four Israelis were wounded from a rocket that landed on a residential home.

The military said several mortar shells were fired even after Hamas announced the cease-fire as sirens warning of incoming projectiles wailed in Israel overnight again. The military struck the mortar launcher early Sunday but the calm held, with neither side appearing eager to resume hostilities.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel would not accept a cease-fire unless it included an end to all militant hostilities, including incendiary kites and balloons from Gaza that have devastated nearby Israeli farmlands and nature reserves.

“The Israeli military has delivered its most punishing blow against Hamas since the 2014 war. I hope they got

the message. If not, they will get it later on,” he said at the weekly cabinet meeting.

After several balloons drifted into Israel Sunday, the military said it targeted the Hamas squad that had launched them from the northern Gaza Strip.

Hamas police also announced an explosion Sunday at a house in Gaza City that killed a father and son, aged 35 and 13. The explosion appeared to be an accidental blast related to militant stockpiles of explosives. Hamas said it would investigate.

Israel said it unleashed Saturday’s barrage in response to weeks of violence along Gaza’s border—including a grenade attack Friday that wounded an officer—as well as sustained Hamas rocket attacks and a campaign of incendiary devices floating over the border.

Focus

By ERIC TALMADGE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—Doctor O Yong Il swings open a glass door with a bright orange biohazard sign and gestures to the machine he hoped would revolutionize his life's work. It's called the GeneXpert and it's about the size of a household microwave oven. As chief of North Korea's National Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory, Dr. O saw it as a godsend.

Tuberculosis is North Korea's biggest public health problem. With this American-made machine, his lab would be able to complete a TB test in just two hours, instead of two months.

It took years, but Dr. O got the machines, only to discover that GeneXpert needs cartridges he can't replace. It's not entirely clear what about the cartridges would violate international sanctions. For a long time, the producer refused to disclose what agents were inside because that was patented information. But it doesn't really matter. No one, it seems, is willing to help him procure them from abroad and run the risk of angering Washington.

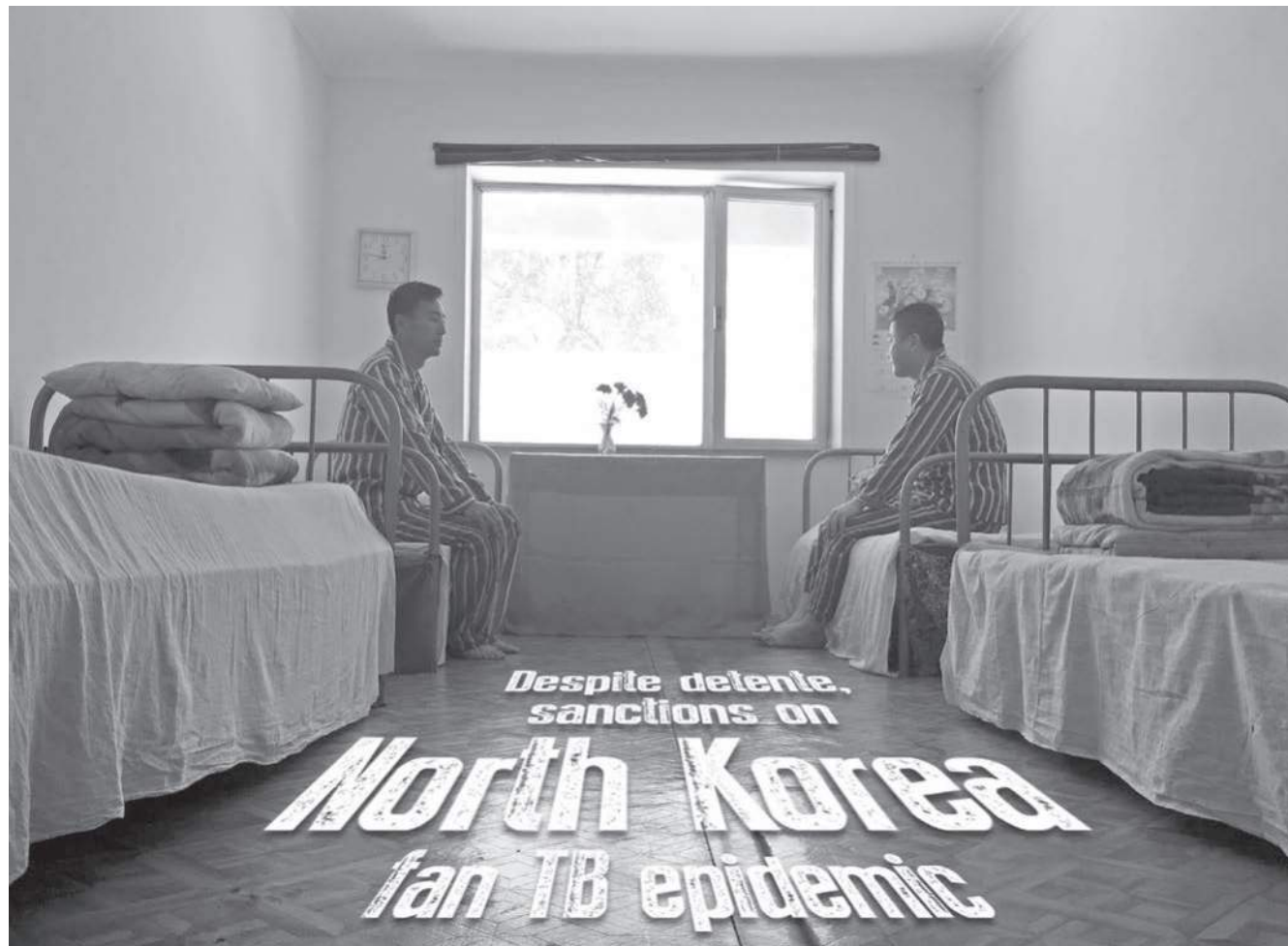
Despite a budding mood of detente on the Korean Peninsula since the summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un last month in Singapore, ongoing sanctions championed by the U.S. and Trump's "maximum pressure" policy continue to generate an atmosphere of hesitation and the fear of even unintentional violations. And that is keeping lifesaving medicines and supplies from thousands of North Korean tuberculosis patients.

Dr. O's laboratory, built with help from Stanford University and Christian Friends of Korea aid group, has essentially been running on empty since April.

But the idle GeneXperts may soon be the least of his troubles.

Tuberculosis kills more than 1.6 million people a year. When left untreated it will be fatal in half of those it infects. It's the world's most deadly infectious disease and is so contagious that each case can be expected to lead to 10 to 20 more.

In developed countries, it has largely been brought under control. There's a vaccine that prevents it and a cocktail of drugs that can be used to treat, and often cure, it in a matter of months. But it's a



major scourge in less affluent places, including North Korea and sub-Saharan Africa.

To help North Korea control its tuberculosis problem, a Geneva-based international aid organization called the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria has dispersed more than \$100 million in grants since 2010. Last year it supported the treatment of about 190,000 North Korean TB patients.

But, two weeks ago, Global Fund ended all of its North Korea-related grants, saying it could no longer accept the North's "unique operating conditions." Spokesman Seth Faison said the fund informed Pyongyang in February so it would have time to look for alternative funding sources. He said Global Fund is providing buffer stocks of medicines and health products to help support the treatment of tuberculosis patients through June next year.

Faison said Global Fund welcomes the "positive diplomatic efforts underway" between Pyongyang and its neighbors. But the fund's position stands.

The decision shocked the doctors at the Pyongyang tuberculosis lab, who praised Global Fund for the work it had done but accused it of bowing to political pressure from the United States and Trump's vow to keep the pressure on and not ease sanctions until the North makes major steps toward denuclearization. The United States government, which has pledged \$1.4 billion this year, is one of Global Fund's biggest donors.

The fund's retreat sparked

outrage outside of North Korea as well. In an open letter published in the medical journal *Lancet*, Harvard physician Kee Park, director of North Korea programs for the Korean American Association, warned the fund's withdrawal could create a "humanitarian and public health crisis" and called the move "a cataclysmic betrayal of the people of the DPRK."

Whatever the reason, its departure is valid cause for concern.

When tuberculosis patients reduce or go off their medications prematurely, or begin taking lower quality ones, the bacteria that causes their disease can develop a resistance to the two most powerful anti-TB drugs, making the condition harder and much more expensive to treat. This kind of multi-drug resistant TB is most often found in China, India and Russia.

And it's a big problem in North Korea.

North Korea's health system is fragile and strapped for resources. But in keeping with Kim's directives to lift the nation's standard of living, officials are looking for ways to improve.

"We have been waging a vigorous struggle with a highly ambitious plan to increase the average life expectancy of the population and bring other health indices in line with those of the world's most advanced countries," explained Ri Jong Chang, who is the director of the Central Tuberculosis Prevention Institute and has worked with TB patients for the past 25 years.

Ri explained that at the most

basic level, the country maintains a network of about 7,000 clinics and a system initiated decades ago that focuses on "household doctors." Each doctor is responsible for the care of 150 households within their administrative area. Along with primary care, they keep their patients informed and educated about health issues and conduct activities to prevent diseases.

If a suspected case of tuberculosis is found, the patient is sent to a county-level hospital for testing.

Aware of its needs and vulnerabilities, North Korea, which is generally secretive and deeply suspicious of anything that smacks of foreign "meddling," has demonstrated a surprising willingness to accept help, allow access and share information with United Nations' agencies and foreign aid organizations.

Along with Global Fund, the most established group treating TB patients in the North is the Eugene Bell Foundation, which supports the treatment of more than 1,000 patients at 12 centers across the country. Unlike Global Fund, since 2008 the Eugene Bell Foundation has been solely focused on fighting multi drug-resistant tuberculosis, which typically takes about 18 months to treat and costs nearly \$5,000 per patient.

Stephen Linton, who founded the group in 1995, has a grim assessment of the situation.

"We are probably only covering about one-tenth of the MDR-TB patients in the country right now," he told The Associated Press.

He said about half of his patients are in Pyongyang, a city of 3 million and the place where most of the North's elites reside. The reason is straightforward—MDR-TB develops after exposure to medications that failed. In rural areas, fewer people have access to those medicines to begin with.

"If you are living in the countryside in North Korea, you are much less likely to get MDR-TB than if you live in Pyongyang. It's horrendous," he said. "We can't get to the bottom of it, even though we focus a lot of resources there."

What really worries him, and the North Korean government, is what will happen if the patients who relied on Global Fund support run out of medications, stop getting help or turn to cheaper, less effective treatments.

Many will die. But not before infecting many others.

"This is an airborne infection," he said. "Every time you are in a closed space with a TB patient, you are at risk. So for all the people that travel to North Korea, all the tourists, all the diplomats—they are a risk to everyone who comes near them."

This was supposed to be the year Eugene Bell began to really up its game in North Korea, tripling to 3,000 the number of patients it treats.

Many of the sanatoria where TB patients are treated in the North were built 30 or 40 years ago. They have poor insulation, are overcrowded and are often fire hazards. To address those problems and the sort of transparency issues Global Fund was concerned

about, Eugene Bell has developed pre-fabricated wards tailor-made to meet the North's conditions.

They are simple, single-story duplexes. Each can be put up quickly by three or four people, meaning the entire process can be monitored while Linton and other Eugene Bell people are in the country on their bi-annual medical team visits. The wards are already paid for when they are shipped from China, so the money isn't going into the pockets of government officials or funding Kim Jong Un's missile programs.

The idea was to begin putting up 80-100 wards to create large centers in each of North Korea's nine provinces. A pilot project with 10 wards is now operating on the outskirts of Pyongyang, not far from the airport.

Linton said everything was going well until last December.

"Then we ran into this sanctions problem," he said. "It's officially approved. The design is approved. And it's not that we can't send anything in. But these buildings have a metal roof—a panel that has metal in it, aluminum—and that's the issue."

Linton said Eugene Bell has a quarter of a million dollars' worth of them "rotting in monsoon weather" in a dockyard outside of Seoul. He believes that until Washington makes it clear it is not against humanitarian aid, other countries and aid organizations will be reluctant to act—or even approve the shipment of items like Dr. O's GeneXpert cartridges or Eugene Bell's patient wards that are clearly intended for humanitarian use.

As an American, Linton says, he is concerned the U.S. will be held responsible for whatever bad happens with TB in North Korea since no country is as seen as "owning" the sanctions as much as America.

"Unless something is done and done soon, this medical emergency will become known in Korea as the 'Sanctions TB Epidemic,'" he said. "And it will haunt the peninsula for generations."

AP

Overdrive

AUTOREVIEW: Tiny surprise: EcoSport brings cool features to US market

By **BARRY SPYKER**
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

The first challenge with the 2018 Ford EcoSport was to figure out how to get into the cargo area. The gate doesn't lift, but swings open? So where's the dang handle? It's recessed into the taillight?

Well, that is novel and, once you figure it out, pretty cool. And it's not the only cool feature of this new subcompact crossover SUV, the tiniest of vehicles in Ford's showroom this year. There's also an app called FordPass that enables you to find the car in a crowded lot, and this little guy can play hide and seek. You can also unlock or start the car right from your smartphone.

A safety feature called MyKey allows parents to limit top speeds and audio volume for peace of mind when their teen takes the EcoSport onto the interstate (yikes!). And, one more safety nod: The lights come on automatically with the wipers. Nice touch.

The EcoSport (pronounced echo-sport, unlike Ford's EcoBoost) has actually been around for 15 years, mostly in developing nations. Built in India, it comes to the U.S. for 2018 after a rework inside and out.

Shorter, smaller and rounder than the Ford Escape, the EcoSport is one of the few subcompacts that offers a choice of engines. Standard is a 1.0-liter 3-cylinder turbocharged engine that produces 123 hp. Call it the little engine that couldn't get out of its own way.

Better to go with the optional 2.0-liter that gets 166 hp and 149 pound-feet of torque. It gets an all-wheel-drive system that surveys the road ahead

and reportedly makes adjustments every 16 milliseconds. Both engines are linked to a 6-speed transmission.

The 2.0-liter, standard on the top-line Titanium trim, has enough pep, handles corners without issue under normal driving conditions, and offers a nicely poised ride considering its short wheelbase. Parking, of course, can practically be done blindfolded.

As astonishing as it sounds, EcoSport doesn't get stellar mileage. Figures are in the mid-20s: 28 mpg combined for the little engine, 25 combined for the 2.0-liter.

Inside, panels are well assembled and of reasonable quality for this segment. Seats are roomy up front, but head and shoulder room is tighter in the rear.

Ford's Sync 3 multimedia system is available with an 8-inch touchscreen and offers Apple CarPlay and Android Auto plus connection to the aforementioned FordPass app. And an upgraded 675-watt sound system belts out tunes via 10 speakers and a subwoofer.

For a small subcompact, there are plenty of cubbies, hooks and bins for stuff — as many as 30, by one count.

Second-row seats fold to open up extra space, too.

While the cool tailgate is hinged on the left for easy curbside loading, it could be problematic in parallel parking situations where someone parked too close. Something to consider if you're an urbanite.

The usual air bags and traction control are in the EcoSport, as are blind-spot and rear cross-traffic warnings in the Titanium. But no advanced features, like forward-collision warning or automatic braking, are available even as an option.

EcoSport joins a growing

pack of subcompact crossovers like Chevy's Trax, Jeep Renegade, Mazda CX-3 and Honda HR-V. While it's a

competitive field, it's no surprise Ford felt there was room for one more in this popular segment.



TNS
The 2018 Ford EcoSport brings cool features to the U.S. market.

NUTS & BOLTS

2018 Ford EcoSport

■ Base MSRP: \$20,990

■ As tested: \$26,750 (Titanium trim)

What's all the excitement about? Ford's global EcoSport subcompact gets a facelift and enters the U.S. market

■ Powertrain: 1.0-liter turbo 3-cylinder or 2.0-li-

ter 4-cylinder, mated to 6-speed transmission

How's the performance? The 2.0 gets 166 hp, is spritely and decently poised; the 1.0-liter strains to keep up with its own shadow

What about fuel economy? EPA-rated at 25 mpg combined (2.0 engine); 28 mpg for the 1.0

Under the Hood: Get professional help with airbag warning light

Q: My question for you is about my 1993 Mustang GT — or, as I refer to it, my dust collector, as this is my weekend/sunny day only driver. The car has only 57,000 miles. This spring, when I was getting the car out of winter storage (I live in Iowa), I noticed the “airbag” light blinking. I have tried going online for answers but no help, and no, the car has never been in any front or rear accidents. The battery was old, so I replaced it that thinking it might be the culprit.

Would you have any input as to what the issue might be? The dealer would like to charge me \$145 an hour to

check out. There is no place that I can find to plug in a code reader.

—Glen W.

A: Your Mustang predates scan tool diagnostics for the SRS (supplemental restraint system) but is friendly enough to automatically display diagnostic trouble codes via the SRS malfunction indicator lamp. Those flashes you see can be counted; each code is a two digit number. For example a code 32 will be three flashes, a pause, then two more. There's a three second pause, then the code will repeat, or another code will follow.

On your Mustang there are 17 possible faults that can be identified and displayed

via the light. Codes typically indicate a circuit or component fault. On your fairly simple two-bag system not containing passenger seat sensors, my best guess would be possibly a code 32, caused by a faulty clock spring. This is a wind-up ribbon cable at the top of the steering column that allows a continuous electrical connection to the driver's side (steering wheel) airbag regardless of rotational position. After many steering wheel movements it's not uncommon for this part to fray and lose one or more electrical connections (possibly airbag, horn, or steering wheel button functions).

The retrieved code's diagnostic chart might indicate a circuit fault related to the driver's side airbag, or other circuits, and it would take some skilled sleuthing to determine the specific location of the fault. Due to safety concerns, needed service information/interpretation and system disassembly, this is a job best left to a pro, which could be the dealer or an independent repair facility.

Q: My check engine light came on. A friend told me to tighten my gas cap, which I did. Nothing happened, and then over a week later, the light went out. Why would this be?

—Adran D.

By **BRAD BERGHOLDT**
Tribune News Service

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at bradbergholdt@gmail.com; he cannot make personal replies.



A: It seems your vehicle may have detected an EVAP system leak (can be caused by a loose gas cap among other more permanent causes) and you fixed it! An illuminated MIL (malfunction indicator lamp) caused by this fault will remain on until three consecutive good trips with a fuel gauge reading between 1/4 and 3/4 have

occurred. A good trip is a specific driving sequence where the diagnostic monitor runs to completion without incident. Depending on one's driving habits and refueling regimen, clearing the light may take some time! I'm hoping this wasn't an intermittent fault caused by something else and the light turned off by coincidence.

Life & Style

'Hotel Transylvania 3' tops charts, 'Skyscraper' stumbles

LOS ANGELES (AP)—“Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation” has checked into the No. 1 spot at the box office in its opening weekend and left the Dwayne Johnson action thriller, “Skyscraper,” in the dust.

Sony Pictures estimated Sunday that the animated family movie earned \$44.1 million from North American theaters. As the first in the franchise to open in the summer, it's just slightly under the previous installment's \$48.5 million debut in September 2015.

Worldwide, “Hotel Transylvania 3” has already earned more than \$100 million.

“It's really terrific,” said Adrian Smith, Sony's head of domestic distribution. “We're positioned to take advantage of the valuable summer weekdays and there are six weeks of summer left.”

The successful series has grossed over \$900 million worldwide to date.

Going into the weekend, experts expected a three-way race to the top between “Hotel Transylvania 3,” “Skyscraper” and “Ant-Man and the Wasp,” but the family film won by a large margin.

“There haven't been a lot of options for families this summer,” said comScore senior media analyst Paul Dergarabedian. “They become instant hits.”

Johnson's “Skyscraper,” a rare original summer blockbuster, remained earthbound



This image released by Sony Pictures Animation shows a scene from “Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation.”

AP

in its first weekend in North America. The Universal Pictures film brought in only \$25.5 million domestically. “Skyscraper” cost a reported \$125 million to produce, not accounting for marketing costs.

Johnson has been a consistent presence in movie theaters this year with both “Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle” and “Rampage” prior to “Skyscraper.” Both previous films opened in the \$35 million range, and while “Jumanji” went on to be a worldwide box office juggernaut, “Rampage” petered out domestically just under

\$100 million. As with “Rampage,” however, the studio is expecting the majority of “Skyscraper” profits to come from international audiences.

“‘Skyscraper’ is really engineered for a global release and it got a terrific start,” said Jim Orr, Universal's president of domestic distribution. “We have great faith in a more than terrific run at the domestic box office going forward.”

Internationally, “Skyscraper” grossed \$40.4 million from 57 territories for a global total of \$65.9 million.

Second place went to Disney and Marvel's “Ant-Man and the Wasp,” which brought

in an additional \$28.8 million in its second weekend, down 62 percent from last week. It's one of the steeper second week falls in the Marvel Cinematic Universe. The first “Ant-Man” fell 53 percent.

“Incredibles 2” took fourth place with \$16.2 million and “Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom” rounded out the top five with \$15.5 million.

A handful of smaller releases made notable splashes this weekend including Annapurna's buzzy dystopian satire “Sorry to Bother You,” which opened in limited release last week and added 789 locations this weekend.

It earned \$4.3 million in its expansion for spot No. 7 on the charts.

The coming of age film “Eighth Grade” also scored top marks, and the highest per theater average of the year, with \$252,284 from four theaters. The well-reviewed pic will expand nationwide in the coming weeks.

And documentaries continue to perform well too, including the Fred Rogers doc “Won't You Be My Neighbor?” which added \$1.9 million from 868 theaters, and “Three Identical Strangers” which expanded to 167 theaters and grossed \$1.2 million.

Estimated ticket sales are for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. “Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation,” \$44.1 million (\$46.4 million international).
2. “Ant-Man and the Wasp,” \$28.8 million (\$35.3 million international).
3. “Skyscraper,” \$25.5 million (\$40.4 million international).
4. “Incredibles 2,” \$16.2 million (\$33.3 million international).
5. “Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom,” \$15.5 million (\$26.7 million international).
6. “The First Purge,” \$9.1 million (\$6.2 million international).
7. “Sorry to Bother You,” \$4.3 million.
8. “Sicario: Day of the Soldado,” \$3.9 million (\$1.7 million international).
9. “Uncle Drew,” \$3.2 million (\$70,000 international).
10. “Ocean's 8,” \$2.9 million (\$4.3 million international).

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to comScore:

1. “Dying to Survive,” \$66.6 million.
2. “Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation,” \$46.4 million.
3. “Hidden Man,” \$44.8 million.
4. “Skyscraper,” \$40.4 million.
5. “Ant-Man and the Wasp,” \$35.3 million.
6. “Incredibles 2,” \$33.3 million.
7. “Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom,” \$26.7 million.
8. “Asura,” \$6.6 million.
9. “The First Purge,” \$6.2 million.
10. “Ocean's 8,” \$4.3 million.

Review: Sacha Baron Cohen back with old style, same results

NEW YORK (AP)—The provocateur Sacha Baron Cohen has rebooted his ambush chat show and before any judgment is made about the wisdom of that decision, you have to admire the sheer perseverance of not only the host but also his so-called guests.

Fifteen years after the British comedian leapt to America as an unknown cultural trip-wire to punk everyone from Donald Trump to Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin, he's still befuddling folks who should really know better.

The first episode of Showtime's “Who Is America?” somehow snared former presidential candidate Bernie Sanders and former Republican senator Trent Lott, neither apparently too savvy to sit opposite a dubious dude who is either spectacularly ill-informed or perfectly like-minded.

The first episode—the only

one Showtime allowed journalists to talk about—follows Baron Cohen's tested formula: Create a bunch of off-the-wall characters with prosthetics and accents then set them loose on the unsuspecting public, either wing-tipped or rednecked. Truth be told, the second episode of “Who Is America?” is better than the first, with the upcoming humiliations of some public figures absolutely astounding.

On “Da Ali G Show” from 2000-2004, Baron Cohen played a dim, wannabe gangster; an anti-Semitic correspondent from Kazakhstan; and a gay Austrian reporter. This time, his characters include a far right-wing moron; a gung-ho Israeli anti-terrorism teacher; an ultra-liberal who cycles around in a ponytail and an NPR T-shirt; and an ex-con skinhead with a biker beard.

Over two episodes, the



AP

In this March 4, 2018 file photo, Sacha Baron Cohen arrives at the Vanity Fair Oscar Party in Beverly Hills, Calif. Cohen stars in the new Showtime series “Who Is America?”, premiering on Sunday, July 15.

show proves uneven—best when it toys with those in power and less so when it goes for a cheap laugh from the frivolous. A trip by his left-wing character to a fancy candlelit dinner with staunch conservatives in South Carolina felt flat in comparison to the sheer mischief Baron

Cohen gets into as the Israeli character when trying to get gun-rights advocates to endorse his notion of arming preschoolers.

That's always been the genius of Baron Cohen's format: seeing how far he can coax someone down the rabbit hole. This time, he gets grown, intelligent—and sometimes elected—men to back a fictional program called Kindergardians, in which kids as young as 4 are trained to shoot guns decorated as stuffed animals (like the “Uzi-corn” or the “Dino-gun”).

So we get the sight of Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, former Rep. Joe Walsh and the twin gun rights activists Larry Pratt, of Gun Owners of America, and Philip Van Cleave, of the Virginia Citizens Defense League, duped into parroting prepared text on a teleprompter that “first-graders make good

first-grenaders” and aiming a gun at the screen while singing a twisted version of the nursery song, namely “Head, Shoulders, Not the Toes, Not the Toes.”

Showtime has been tight-lipped about the seven-episode series, to the point of asking journalists who see the show to sign non-disclosure agreements and place their phones in locked cases. Security guards scanned the room with night-vision goggles during a recent screening. (Showtime might embrace free speech but they're happy to limit it, too.)

Yet in a reminder that even the best laid corporate plans unravel, the network's own promotional department has revealed that former Vice President Dick Cheney features in a future episode, somehow convinced to add his friendly autograph to a jug used for waterboarding.

And we know that Sarah Palin, the former Republican vice-presidential candidate, admits that she too was duped, saying on Facebook she had fallen victim to Baron Cohen's “evil, exploitive, sick ‘humor.’” Add defeated Senate candidate Roy Moore to that list; he was enticed to a sit-down with the promise of an award for being a friend of Israel.

It's remarkable that anyone still falls for this bait-and-switch and so give credit to Baron Cohen's team for still beguiling politicians—some, admittedly, not so relevant any more—to their doom. Conservative provocateur James O'Keefe has to smuggle his cameras in, but Baron Cohen uses his as a lure. They keep coming despite the baton he dropped being taken up by the likes of “Daily Show” and “Full Frontal” correspondents. Why anyone sits for a TV interview anymore is a mystery.

Royals release new photos to mark Prince Louis's christening

LONDON (AP)—Kensington Palace has released family photos of Prince Louis in the arms of his mother, the Duchess of Cambridge, to mark the baby boy's christening.

The four official photos were taken at Clarence House in London after Louis was

baptized in the chapel at St. James's Palace on July 9.

The images, taken by celebrity photographer Matt Holyoak, show Prince William and Kate posing with their three children—Louis, Princess Charlotte, 3, and Prince George, 4—as well as with

their wider family.

One shows Kate in a garden cuddling and gazing down at Louis, dressed in a frilly cream lace royal christening gown—a replica of the intricate robe made for Queen Victoria's eldest daughter in 1841.

Louis was born April 23.

This Monday, July 9, 2018, photo provided by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge shows an official photograph to mark the christening of Prince Louis at Clarence House, following Prince Louis' baptism, in London. Seated, left to right: Prince William, The Duke of Cambridge; Prince George; Prince Louis; Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge; and Princess Charlotte. Standing, left to right: Camilla, The Duchess of Cornwall; Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales; Prince Harry, the Duke of Sussex; and wife Megan, the Duchess of Sussex.

AP



Stormy Daniels' lawyer skyrockets to chief Trump critic

LOS ANGELES (AP)—On Monday he was accepting an award from a legal foundation in Denver. He was in Los Angeles on Tuesday, fighting to unseal a lawsuit brought by a Playboy centerfold. On Wednesday he was in New York visiting children separated from their parents at the U.S. border and on Friday he was protesting President Donald Trump in London.

It's official. Michael Avenatti is everywhere.

Before Avenatti began representing porn actress Stormy Daniels in her legal fight against President Donald

Trump in February, he was virtually unknown outside of the California legal community. But in less than six months the litigator has become one of Trump's chief critics.

Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, has said she had sex with Trump in 2006, when he was married, but Trump has denied it. Days before the 2016 presidential election, she was paid \$130,000 to stay silent in a deal handled by Trump's personal attorney Michael Cohen. She is suing to invalidate the nondisclosure agreement.

With a media style only

paralleled by Trump, Avenatti has pursued the president and those close to him relentlessly for months, taunting him in interviews and baiting him and his lawyers in tweets.

Last week, the no-holds-barred lawyer, who seems to have an endless supply of trash talk, tweeted that he would run against Trump if the president seeks re-election and no one else with a good chance of defeating him steps up.

"IF (big) he seeks re-election, I will run, but only if I think that there is no other candidate in the race that has a REAL chance at beating him. We can't relive 2016. I love this country, our values and our people too much to sit by while they are destroyed. #FightClub #Basta," he tweeted.

In recent weeks he's begun representing dozens of parents whose children were separated from them at the U.S. border as a result of the Trump administration's immigration policies.

He's also taken the case of John Melendez, a comedian who claims he pranked Trump into calling him from Air Force One by pretending to be Democratic U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez.



AP

Attorney Michael Avenatti reacts during a news conference outside the Cayuga Centers offices in the Harlem neighborhood in New York, Wednesday, July 11, 2018.

Rapper buys every seat in house, takes strangers to movies

PORTLAND, Maine (AP)—A Maine rapper surprised moviegoers with free tickets to a sci-fi satire movie.

Rory Ferreira, who goes by the stage name Milo, bought all 129 seats to the 4:20 p.m. showing of the movie "Sorry to Bother You" at the Nickel-

odeon in Portland, Maine, on Saturday. The Portland Press Herald reports employees told patrons they could see a movie for free as they arrived at the theater.

Ferreira says he was inspired by the movie's director, Boots Riley, to do something

good for society. Ferreira, of Biddeford, also attended the movie, and tweeted an invite for anyone interested to "catch a flick wit me."

The movie follows the story of a black telemarketer who takes on white speaking mannerisms to try to succeed

Food-loving family makes no exception for special diet

DEAR ABBY: I am a diagnosed narcoleptic. Medication helps with the symptoms, but not entirely. I looked into alternative options and found a fantastic diet. I recently went on it with amazing results.

My dad's side of the family is Italian, and a huge part of the culture is food. During celebrations, it's considered offensive to refuse food, and my family has always looked down on diets. If a family member is on one, they'll argue that it's a special occasion and it's only for one day.

Abby, I'm exhausted at family gatherings. If I try to turn something down, I get attacked because "Grandma made it," or "It's your favorite and we made it for you." I have tried explaining to them that I don't want them to alter their dinner arrangements to accommodate me, but I should be allowed to forgo eating foods that will make me feel like a zombie. They just don't get it, and it has caused arguments. How do I re-open this discussion without offending anyone?

PANICKED OVER PASTA

DEAR P. OVER P.: Do it BEFORE the celebration by calling your hosting family member and explaining that there are now foods you cannot eat because of your diagnosed medical condition. Explain that you know they would not feed certain foods to a diabetic, and you need the same

dispensation. Ask them to kindly not put you in the embarrassing position of having to refuse their delicious food, and if they feel it will cause a problem, they should excuse you from the event.

DEAR ABBY: Six months ago, my friend "Lindy's" husband committed suicide. I have been there for her and understand it takes time, but I'm reaching my limit.

I make plans with her for dinners at our home and at restaurants and have planned various outings, because I know it's difficult to be in the house alone. However, she constantly manipulates, yells at me when she doesn't get her way, and uses the loss of her husband as a rationale for why I and others must do what she wants regardless of what's happening in our own lives, and expects us to tolerate this behavior.

Because of the circumstances, I have given her several passes on the disgusting behavior she has displayed, and have gently spoken up on some occasions when she went too far. She's pushing people away and quite vicious about it, but doesn't see that she's doing it to herself. How long must I tolerate her grieving process before enough is enough?

CONFUSED IN NEW YORK

DEAR CONFUSED: Lindy is not only grieving the loss of

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



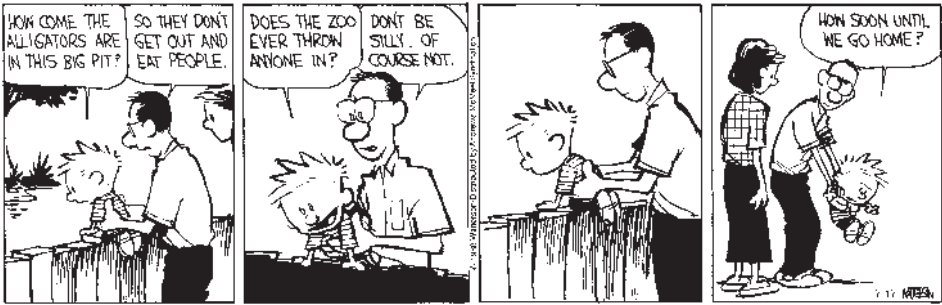
her husband, but raging because of what caused it. She's a "survivor of suicide," and the conflicting emotions—including anger and guilt—she's carrying can make a person sick. If she isn't receiving grief counseling, urge her to find some before she destroys her support system entirely. When Lindy becomes manipulative or abusive, you are within your rights to call her on it and take a step back. For your own sake, you shouldn't continue to allow her to mistreat you.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



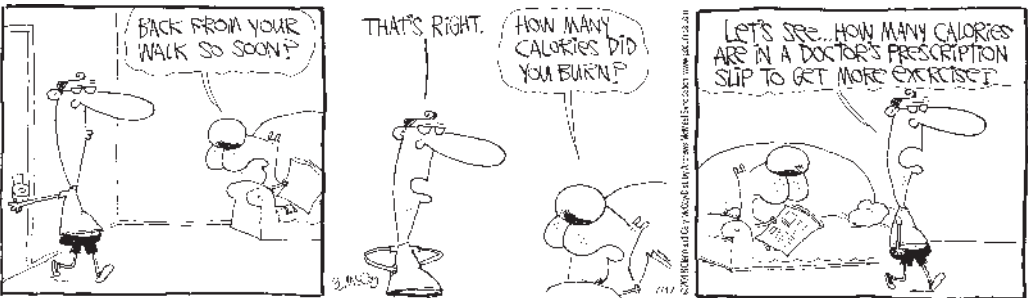
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Sir name

5 Cartoon frame

8 Humdrum

12 Eye drop

13 Numerical prefix

14 Nevada city

15 Shrek, for one

16 iTunes offerings

18 Sailor's star

20 Start

21 Irate

22 Passing craze

23 Cheek makeup

26 D.C.'s river

30 Not 'neath

31 Exist

32 Outer (Pref.)

33 Mexican chili pepper

36 Batting practice areas

38 "Shoo!"

39 Pen name

40 Fancy neckwear

43 Prepared eggs

47 Whale's cousin

49 Actress Moreno

50 Gen. Robert —

51 Old map letters

52 — Bator

53 Burpee buy

54 Roswell visitors

55 Vogue rival

2 Toy block name

3 — Grey tea

4 Donut fillers

5 Valentine's Day

6 Eve's grandson

7 Cover

8 "The God-father"

9 Minus

10 Pot starter

11 Party giver

17 Paint layer

19 Fan's cry

22 Nemesis

23 Jazzy style

24 Zodiac feline

25 City area, for short

26 Expert

27 Jo's sister

28 Chopper

29 Lettuce variety

31 Busy insect

34 Drunk

35 Car

36 Espionage org.

37 Amass

39 1899

40 Tarzan's clique

41 Only

42 Manitoba tribe

43 "Hey, you!"

44 Mound

45 And others (Lat.)

46 Copenhagen native

48 British verb ending

Solution time: 22 mins.

Yesterday's answer 7-17

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Luke Bryan, 42; Carey Hart, 43; David Hasselhoff, 66; Donald Sutherland, 83.

Happy Birthday: Home improvements are encouraged this year. Making a move or positive changes to the way you live will lift your spirits and motivate you to get involved in the creative process of turning your surroundings into a place of comfort and convenience. Love, romance and personal growth are highlighted, along with achieving greater stability and personal happiness. Your numbers are 8, 13, 24, 28, 35, 41, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get involved, participate and make a difference. Use your voice to bring about change. Share and make suggestions, but be willing to listen to what others have to contribute. Much can be accomplished if you are a team player.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A little downtime will do you good. A change of scenery or a shopping spree will give you some great ideas for ways to update your image or lifestyle. Express how you feel by doing something nice for someone you love.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't take anything or anyone for granted. Offer what you can and be honest about what you are willing to take on. Expect to face delays and the need to backtrack in order to finish what you start.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Personal improvements can be made. Whether it's a quick makeover or starting a fitness and health routine, you'll be happy with the results,

and you'll feel good about what you accomplish. Show someone special how much you care. A romantic gesture is encouraged.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take your time and live within your means. Trying to do too much will put you in a vulnerable position. Aim to stabilize your situation, not complicate matters. Live up to your promises and take care of your responsibilities.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Set up a plan and follow through. Your ability to bring about positive change in a practical way will be impressive. A partnership will lead to unexpected opportunities. Change will result in greater stability. Physical improvements are favored.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take care of your chores and focus on what you can do for others. Your assistance will be welcomed but may not be appreciated with the rewards you expect. Don't make a fuss; be thankful for what you receive.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make sure you have everything in order before you get started. Being ill-prepared will make others question your ability. Keep your life and activities simple, affordable and moderate. Added discipline will help curb bad habits.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll need to take a closer look at your spending habits and consider who is taking advantage of you and your generosity. Helping someone who is undeserving will cause you to fall short when it comes to your personal responsibilities.

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll be tempted to express yourself emotionally. Before you do, make sure you have your facts straight. Someone is likely to stand up to you if you get into an emotional discussion that reveals too much personal information.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Put more time and effort into saving and building your equity. If you are excessive, it will leave you in an awkward position that could disrupt your relationship with someone close to you. Cut corners instead of adding to your expenses.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your unusual way of looking at situations will help you come up with the right tools to turn a negative into a positive. Romance or making a personal improvement will boost your morale. Birthday Baby: You are perceptive, opportunistic and adaptable. You are industrious and innovative.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

4 1 9 7

5

1 8 3

6 9 7 4

1 4 9 7 8

5 6 3 8

8 3 5

7 5 1 2 3

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

6 2 7 5 3 1 4 9 8

9 1 4 6 8 7 5 2 3

5 3 8 9 4 2 1 7 6

1 4 6 7 9 5 3 8 2

3 8 2 1 6 4 9 5 7

7 9 5 3 2 8 6 1 4

4 7 3 2 1 9 8 6 5

8 5 1 4 7 6 2 3 9

2 6 9 8 5 3 7 4 1

Difficulty Level ★★ 7/17 Difficulty Level: ★

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

PHOTOREJUVENATION Solution: 11 letters

H T O O M S R E D N E S S C E

W R I N K L E S P A U S L O R

K E P I A G I N G N P M A L U

A C N S D N A H S O P T Y O T

O H E O R E A C T S E N E R X

S R G N T O R S E E R O R S E

C H A N G E E L T Y G I G H T

F I L T E R K A T G I X T O L

T P L N A C N G R R P E S F U

N P O C E E H I A E A L E H F

A U C R V E C N E N L P H T H

I L F U E H C I L E I M C W T

D S J K I A L L C G L O W O U

A E S N A E L C P R I C E R O

R D I O D E R M A T O L O G Y

©2012 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 7/17 Aging, Care, Cells, Change, Cheeks, Chest, Chin, Cleanse, Clear, Clinic, Collagen, Color, Complexion, Dermatology, Diode, Energy, Filter, Freckles, Glow, Growth, Hands, Lamp, Laser, Layer, Light, Neck, Pore, Price, Pulsed, Radiant, React, Redness, Rejuvenate, Skin, Smooth, Soak, Spa, Spots, Sunscreen, Test, Texture, Tone, Upper Lip, Wrinkles, Youthful Yesterday's Answer: Wake Me Up To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 37 through 53, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1 General Maintenance - 3-5 years experience with valid driver's license. Police Clearance required. Email resume to BFJ Corporation at cisco.cnmi@yahoo.com

PLACE YOUR ADVERT HERE!

For opportunities contact us at 235-6397

DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER

We want you to join our team!

Store Manager

- 2 years experience in managing 10 or more employees
- Must be computer proficient
- Driver's license/transportation
- Excellent spoken and written communication skills
- Problem solving skills
- Ability to meet weekly deadlines
- Starting salary \$40k. Negotiable based on experience.

Must be a US permanent resident
Includes monthly performance bonus, 100% medical & dental, paid vacations, paid sick time, paid holidays and more!

Please apply on our website www.dialrto.com

MICRONESIA RENEWABLE ENERGY INC. CNMI

CNMI Solar Energy Sales Manager

Job Description
Build a Bright Future Come Shine with the Leaders in Solar Energy!

We are a leader in providing Residential and Commercial solar energy systems.

Job Position
Micronesia Renewable Energy, Inc. is currently recruiting a Solar Energy Sales Managers for our Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands Region. This position is responsible for supporting MRE sales strategy, working independently and with the MRE Executive team to expand MRE sales opportunities with residential and commercial customers in these areas. This position also includes gathering competitive data to help MRE develop strategies to grow faster in this market. This position will be stationed in the CNMI to help build a structured sales force, train and enforce quotas on the sales teams in these areas.

Primary responsibilities for this position include, but are not limited to:

- Meet and exceed objectives by creating and executing sales strategy to expand market share and maximizing revenue growth in assigned territories.
- Establish, qualify, develop and maintain relationships with new and existing sales people.
- Train sales staff at these locations ensuring that integrity and structure, procedures and policies are maintained.
- Work with cross-functional departments within MRE to coordinate the involvement of company personnel, including but not limited marketing, operations, support groups and management resources to meet customer objectives and expectations.
- Train sales people to generate, develop and qualify leads and prospects through cold-calling and other lead generation activities.
- Develop sales presentation collateral and project proposals that include marketing, technical and financial information to close key contracts.
- Review, filter and track new and existing sales opportunities in CRM system.
- Work with marketing to develop effective product collateral and marketing activities to support sales.
- Document, report on and maintain records on sales activities.
- Attend and participate in company and industry meetings and events.
- Other duties as assigned, maintaining flexibility to support company objectives.

Qualifications:

- 5 years' experience in sales/territory management, preferably in the energy, utility, or other related industry.
- Proven experience developing new accounts, alliances and sales accounts.
- Must be able to work independently as well as thrive in a fast-paced, dynamic, team environment.
- The successful candidate should demonstrate prior ability to obtain business results by working collaboratively in a multi-cultural, multi-site organization.
- Strong desire to bring best practices to the team, share your knowledge and expertise and enable your team members' mutual success as the organization continues to grow.
- Excellent analytical ability and strong communication skills, with the ability to create and present compelling proposals.
- Strong organization skills detailed and process orientation.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, a collaborative style and the ability to communicate effectively at all levels.
- Skilled in the use and knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite including Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Outlook, etc.
- Must possess a valid driver's license and passport and can travel domestically and internationally, as required.
- Attendance is a mandatory function of this position.

Please send resumes to jvoacolo@micronesiarenewableenergy.com

Mailing Address: PO Box 7810, Tamuning, Guam 96931
Physical Address: 167B E.T Calvo Memorial Parkway, Tamuning Guam 96913
Tel. No.: (671) 632-2613 • www.micronesiarenewableenergy.com

WHATZIT Solution: Cheaper by the dozen

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

CHEAPER

THE THE THE
THE THE THE
THE THE THE
THE THE THE

www.facebook.com/dingbatgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper for more news, value and information.

SUBSCRIBING MEANS MORE

Please call 235-NEWS.

Hernandez hits Dodgers' 129th HR in win over Angels



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Clayton Kershaw

has returned to form since coming off the disabled list and the Los Angeles Dodgers are leading the NL West after a disappointing start to the season.

They can't wait for the second half.

"Now it's kind of a sprint to the finish," Kershaw said. "We like where we're at."

The Dodgers (53-43) closed the first half by rallying for a 5-3 win over the Angels on Sunday and head into the All-Star break leading Arizona by a half-game.

"We're playing a little bit more now what we are. I don't think we're a 16-26 ballclub," Kershaw said, referring to the Dodgers' start. "Good for us to right the ship that quickly. Thankfully, Arizona was kind of in a tough spot at that time too, so didn't lose much ground."

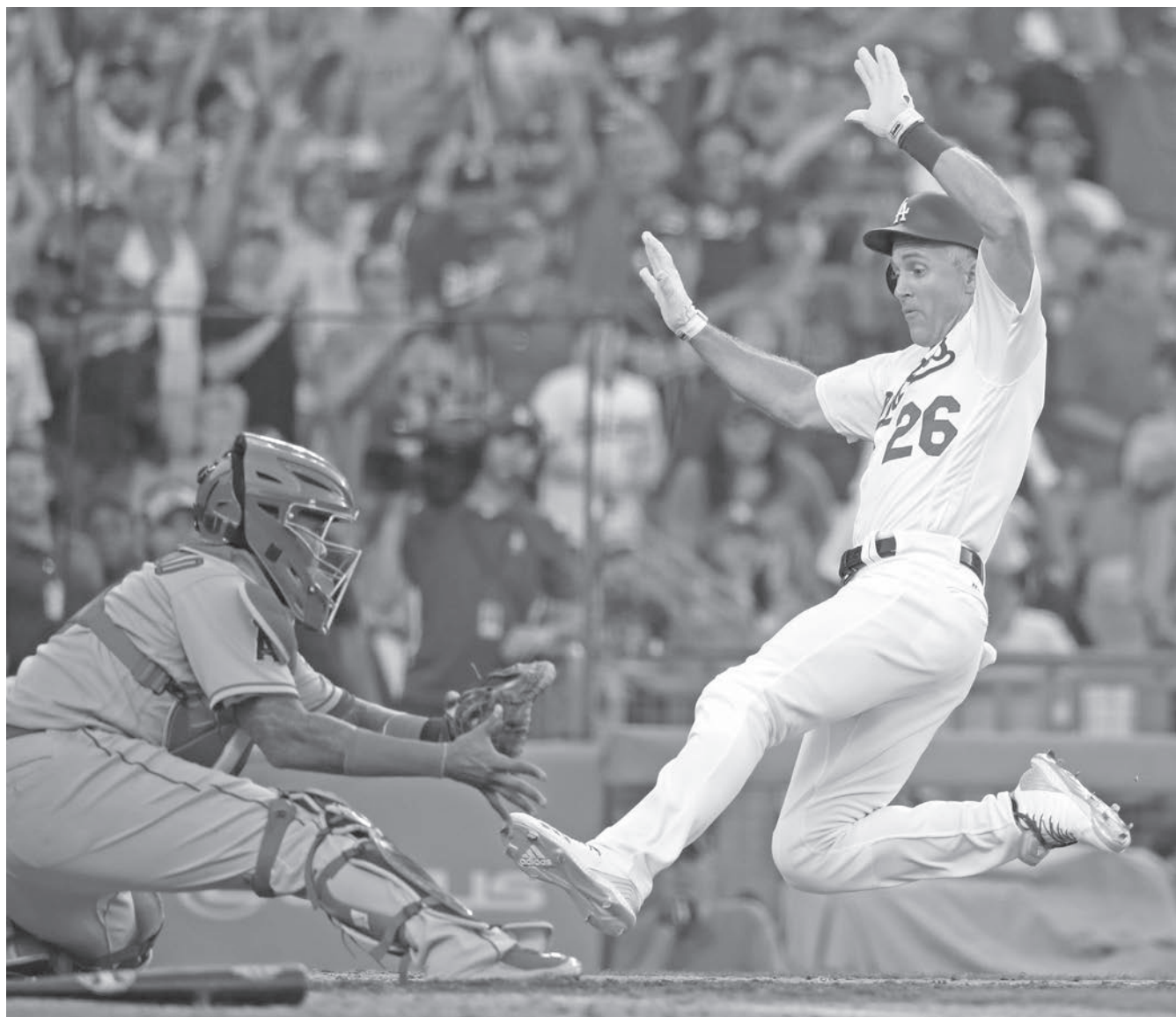
Orioles 6, Rangers 5

In Baltimore, Manny Machado homered before making an early exit, Adam Jones hit a three-run double and the Orioles rallied past the Texas Rangers.

Machado was removed in the fifth inning by manager Buck Showalter after a 26-minute rain delay, taking the All-Star shortstop off a sloppy field. The last-place Orioles are entertaining offers for Machado, who is expected to be dealt before the July 31 non-waiver trade deadline.

Tigers 6, Astros 3

In Houston, John Hicks hit one of Detroit's four home runs off Justin Verlander, and the Tigers snapped a six-game losing streak.



Los Angeles Dodgers' Chase Utley scores on a double by Yasmani Grandal as Los Angeles Angels catcher Martin Maldonado waits for the throw during the ninth inning of a baseball game Saturday, July 14, 2018, in Los Angeles.

Sean Manaea (9-6) allowed two runs in six innings for his fourth consecutive win. All-Star second baseman Jed Lowrie walked and scored in his return to the lineup following a scary collision in right field two nights earlier.

Braves 5, Diamondbacks 1

In Atlanta, Julio Teheran pitched 6 1/3 scoreless innings, and the Braves used a four-run third inning to get the win.

It was a needed confidence boost before the All-Star break for Atlanta, which had lost eight of 10. Teheran (7-6) allowed four hits, struck out six and walked three.

Marlins 10, Phillies 5

In Miami, Brian Anderson hit a three-run homer in Miami's eight-run fifth inning.

Miami totaled eight hits in the fifth against three pitchers. Cameron Maybin homered and singled in the inning, and Justin Bour had two singles, with his second hit driving in the final two runs for an 8-5 lead.

Nationals 6, Mets 1

In New York, Daniel Murphy and Trea Turner each hit a two-run single in Washington's five-run seventh inning.

Matt Adams added two hits and scored a run as Washington salvaged a split of its four-game set against New York.

Twins 11, Rays 7, 10 innings

In Minneapolis, Brian Dozier hit a grand slam for Minnesota in the 10th inning, capping a testy, back-and-forth finish that featured four lead changes from the bottom of the seventh on.

Jake Cave singled to start the 10th against Matt Andriese (2-4). He moved up on a stolen base and a sacrifice bunt.

White Sox 10, Royals 1

In Chicago, Daniel Palka and Yoan Moncada homered, Lucas Giolito tossed two-hit ball into the seventh inning and the White Sox won for the third time in four games.

Moncada had three hits and scored three times a day after leaving Saturday's 5-0 loss with a bruised right knee. Palka also had three hits and drove in two runs.

Adalberto Mondesi homered leading off the eighth for the last-place Royals, who are 2-11 in July. Burch Smith (0-1) allowed two runs and three hits in two innings.

Verlander (9-5) struck out 12 in six innings in his first start against his former team. But he allowed a season-high six runs while dropping his third straight decision.

Cardinals 6, Reds 4

In St. Louis, Matt Carpenter and Dexter Fowler homered for St. Louis, making interim manager Mike Shildt a winner in his first game.

Shildt took over for Mike

Matheny, who was fired late Saturday after six-plus seasons at the helm.

Red Sox 5, Blue Jays 2

In Boston, Xander Bogaerts homered in his first at-bat a day after hitting a game-ending grand slam, and the Red Sox entered the All-Star break with their best record since 1949.

Bogaerts and Brock Holt each drove in two runs for the

major league-leading Red Sox (68-30), who have won 12 of their last 13 games.

Indians 5, Yankees 2

In Cleveland, Michael Brantley homered leading off the eighth inning, and the Indians beat the Yankees for a split of their four-game series.

One of six Cleveland players who will be in Washington for Tuesday's All-Star Game, Brantley broke a 2-2 tie by

belting a pitch from Chad Green (5-2) into the seats in right for his 12th homer.

Cubs 7, Padres 4

In San Diego, Jon Lester won for the eighth time in nine starts, Jason Heyward drove in two runs and the Cubs completed a three-game series sweep.

The Cubs jumped to a 5-0 lead after two innings against rookie left-hander Eric Lauer (5-6).

Pirates 7, Brewers 6, 10 innings

In Pittsburgh, Josh Bell hit a two-run double in the 10th inning, giving Pittsburgh a five-game sweep of Milwaukee and its sixth straight win overall.

With rain falling, Gregory Polanco and Colin Moran singled to put runners on the corners for Bell, who drove a pitch from Dan Jennings (3-3) into the gap in right-center.

Rockies 4, Mariners 3

In Denver, All-Star Trevor Story led off the ninth inning with his 20th homer, closing out Colorado's three-game series sweep.

Story worked the count to 2-2 against Nick Vincent (3-2) before hitting a drive over the wall in left-center for a dramatic finish to a game played through steady rain.

Athletics 6, Giants 2

In San Francisco, Stephen Piscotty homered for the fifth time in nine games, leading Oakland to the victory.

Tiger recalls British Open triumphs

UNITED KINGDOM (AP)—Tiger Woods played a first British Open practice round in three years at Carnoustie on Sunday and said the Scottish course is playing like St Andrews when he won in 2000 and Royal Liverpool where he captured a third Claret Jug six years later.

Woods played just eight holes, the first to fourth, and then crossed to the 15th to play the closing four holes.

This year's British Open, the only one of golf's four majors played outside the United States, starts at Carnoustie on Thursday.

It will be the first time the 42-year-old Woods, a 14-time major champion whose career has been blighted by injuries in recent years, has contested the tournament since missing the cut in the 2015 edition at St Andrews, while it will be the fourth oc-

casion he has teed-up in a Carnoustie Open.

The American finished tied for seventh behind Scotland's Paul Lawrie at Carnoustie in 1999 and shared 12th place in 2007 when Ireland's Padraig Harrington also won in a play-off.

"I have missed playing in The Open a lot because it is our oldest tournament and coming here to Carnoustie is just special," Woods told reporters. "It's right in front of you. It's hard and probably the most difficult one we play in the whole Open rotation. Right now, the fairways are faster than the greens, so I am sure it will be one of those weeks where the fairways will be a little quicker than the greens."

In the eight holes Woods, one of the greatest golfers of



all-time, played on Sunday, he used the driver just once.

"A key off the tees is how hot do you want the ball landing on the fairways?," explained Woods. "You can make the ball roll a further 60, 70 or 80 yards but the question is whether it is worth it or not. On some of the holes you can fly the bunkers and again, it is one of those risk and reward golf courses given the way it is set-up right now as the fairways are going to play awfully narrow as it is playing so fast."

Meanwhile Woods said the fact he would be playing in his 20th British Open, a tournament traditionally staged on links or coastal courses, would offset his absence from recent editions.

"No, no I don't have to learn how to play this style of

golf because I have played in so many Opens and so many links courses over my career," he said. "You don't get the chance to see Open venues this brown so often but then it was just like this in 2000 and also at Hoylake, as well. So, in saying that it will be a lot of fun," he insisted. "It is going to be a week where the course will be quick and we are going to have to deal with it."

Woods is returning to competition some three weeks after sharing fourth place in hosting the Quicken Loans National and admitting he has "work to do" over the next three days of official practice if he is to end a five-year winless drought.

"My game is still thoroughly in development and I only played eight holes today (Sunday), so I have a lot of work to do the next few days," he said.

Novak is back, wins fourth Wimbledon title

LONDON (AP)—Novak Djokovic acknowledged that he was worried. His coach was, too.

Could Djokovic ever return to the top of tennis? To the heights he'd already reached? Could he put aside the time lost to a painful right elbow that required surgery and the disappointment of poor-for-him results? Could he end a Grand Slam drought that lasted more than two years?

All of that fretting seemed misplaced Sunday night. Back at his best, Djokovic became Wimbledon's champion for the fourth time, grabbing a lead right away against a weary Kevin Anderson in the final and holding off a late challenge to win 6-2, 6-2, 7-6 (3).

"There were several moments where I was frustrated and questioning whether I can get back (to the) desired level or not. But that makes this whole journey even more special for me," Djokovic said.

"It's easy to talk now and look back at it and be kind of grateful, but I really am grateful to go through this kind of, so to say, mixed emotions, turbulences as well, mentally, moments of doubt and disappointment and frustration, anger."

It is Djokovic's 13th major trophy, the fourth-highest total in the history of men's tennis, trailing only Roger Federer's 20, Rafael Nadal's 17 and his childhood idol Pete Sampras' 14.

But it's also Djokovic's first since he completed a career Grand Slam at the 2016 French Open.

"It was a long journey," the 31-year-old from Serbia said. "I couldn't pick a better place, to be honest, in the tennis world to peak and to make a comeback."

A year ago at the All England Club, Djokovic quit during his quarterfinal because of the elbow, then took the rest of 2017 off.

After the operation in February, Djokovic's results were mediocre. He realized later he tried to come back too soon.



"I really was impatient," he says now.

In April, he reunited with Marian Vajda, the man who had coached Djokovic for years before Boris Becker and Andre Agassi did.

"I always had doubt," Vajda said. "I was thinking really negative."

They built "the new Novak," as Vajda explained it.

Retooled his serve. Made adjustments to other strokes.

Still, Djokovic was so dispirited by his upset loss at the French Open last month that he vowed, in the heat of the moment, to skip the grass-court circuit.

Good thing he didn't stick to that.

Because he fell out of the

top 20 for the first time in more than a decade, the No. 21 Djokovic is the lowest-ranked Wimbledon titlist since Goran Ivanisevic in 2001.

On Sunday, under a pale blue sky interrupted by only the occasional soft white puff of cloud,

Djokovic looked far more like a guy who used to be No. 1.

"The first two sets," said Anderson, who played college tennis at the University of Illinois, "Novak beat up on me pretty bad."

Anderson could be excused for exhaustion. His semifinal was the second-longest Grand Slam match in history, last-

ing more than 6 hours until he edged John Isner 26-24 in the fifth set. And that followed another extended fifth

set in his 13-11 upset of eight-time champion Federer in the quarterfinals.

Anderson also blamed some nerves.

This was, after all, the 22nd Grand Slam final for Djokovic, and the second for Anderson, the runner-up at last year's U.S. Open and aiming to become the first South African man to win Wimbledon.

He was so out of sorts, his strokes so off-the-mark, that Djokovic gathered eight of the first 10 games even though he

only conjured up two winners. No need for more, because Anderson gifted him 15 unforced errors in that span.

"I didn't really find my form the way I wanted to," said Anderson, whose right elbow was massaged by a trainer after the first set. "Of course, my body didn't feel great."

It was so lopsided for the first hour-plus that spectators began pulling for Anderson, likely in the hopes of getting more tennis for their tickets, which carried a face value of 210 pounds (about \$275).

Somehow, Anderson raised his game late and nearly managed to extend the match, five times standing just a point away from forcing a fourth set.



LAS VEGAS (AP)—The Los Angeles Lakers put on a good show for LeBron James.

With James in attendance, the defending NBA Summer League champions cruised back into the semifinals, beating the Detroit Pistons 101-78 on Sunday.

Second-round pick Svi Mykhailiuk scored 19 points and Josh Hart added 18 for the Lakers, who shot out to a 33-14 lead after one quarter inside UNLV's Thomas & Mack Center.

James wore gold Lakers shorts in watching the Lakers

Lakers give LeBron a good show, make Summer League semis

improve to 5-0. He left as his former team, the Cleveland Cavaliers, were preparing for their quarterfinal game against Toronto.

The Cavaliers won that game and will meet the Lakers in the semifinals on Monday.

Lakers 101, Pistons 78

Jeff Ayres had 10 points and 10 rebounds for the Lakers.

Former lottery pick Henry Ellenson finished a solid stint in Las Vegas with 22 points for the Pistons (3-3). Second-round pick Bruce Brown added 11 but was a woeful 3 for 17 from the

field, missing all six 3-pointers.

Cavaliers 82, Raptors 68

John Holland scored 23 points and No. 8 overall pick Collin Sexton had 18 points and six assists for the Cavaliers (5-1).

The 12th-seeded Cavaliers broke open the game by outscoring the Raptors 21-4 in the third quarter, when Toronto went 2 for 20 from the field and missed all 11 3-pointers.

Chris Boucher scored 18 points for the 29th-seeded Raptors (2-4), who rested OG Anunoby. Malachi Richardson and Alfonzo McKinnie

each added 14 points but combined to shoot 10 for 29.

Trail Blazers 95, Celtics 80

John Jenkins had 25 points for the No. 2 seed Trail Blazers (5-0) and Archie Goodwin became the all-time Las Vegas Summer League scorer in the fourth quarter, passing Coby Karl (337).

Goodwin had 13 points and finished the game with his Las Vegas career mark at 343.

Wade Baldwin IV had 14 points and 10 assists, and Zach Collins scored 11.

Trey Davis had 19 points,

and Guerschon Yabusele and Hassan Martin added 16 apiece for the Celtics (4-2).

Portland will face the 27th-seeded Grizzlies in the semifinals.

Grizzlies 82, 76ers 73

Jaren Jackson Jr., the No. 4 overall pick, had 14 points, eight rebounds and four blocks to help the Grizzlies (3-3) top the 30th-seeded 76ers.

Brandon Goodwin led the way for Memphis with 21 points, Kobi Simmons scored 15 and second-round pick Jevon Carter added 11.

Furkan Korkmaz had 18

AP
Serbia's Novak Djokovic celebrates winning the men's singles final match against Kevin Anderson of South Africa at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, in London, Sunday July 15, 2018.

Djokovic held steady on each one, then was as superior in the tiebreaker as he was most of the afternoon.

"You can definitely see the improvements he's made since coming back from injury," Anderson said.

By the end, Djokovic's new serve had saved all seven break points he faced. His groundstrokes were a big reason he only made 13 unforced errors, while Anderson had 32.

When Anderson pushed a forehand return into the net to end it, Djokovic exhaled. After they shook hands, Djokovic performed his personal ritual of bending down to grab a couple of blades of grass and plopping them in his mouth, savoring the triumph.

He did the same after his Wimbledon titles in 2011, 2014 and 2015. One key difference on this day was the presence of two special guests: The doctor who performed the elbow surgery and Djokovic's 3-year-old son, Stefan, who was in the stands for the trophy presentation.

Later, they met in a hallway, and Djokovic knelt down to hug his child.

"It feels amazing," Djokovic said, "because for the first time in my life, I have someone screaming 'Daddy! Daddy!'"

As much as Djokovic is known for his body-bending defense and unerring reads on opponents' serves, he's also someone who fills his matches with histrionics and exaggerated reactions, whether violently smacking the side of his shoe with his racket—as he did against Nadal in their thrilling five-set semifinal that began Friday and ended Saturday—or tearing off his shirt to celebrate a victory.

points, Demetrius Jackson scored 11 and Askia Booker 10 for Philadelphia (2-4).

Meanwhile, the Grizzlies have signed second-round pick Jevon Carter to a multiyear deal.

Terms of the contract announced Sunday were not disclosed.

Carter was taken with the No. 32 pick after winning the Naismith defensive player of the year last season at West Virginia. The point guard was second in the nation with 3.03 steals per game and is the Mountaineers' career leader in that category.

Carter is currently playing for the Grizzlies' team in the NBA Summer League in Las Vegas.

Rota Cliff Fishing Derby set for Aug. 3-5

Fishermen throughout the Marianas are gearing up for the 2018 Rota Cliff Fishing Derby set for Aug 3 to 5.

The designated derby fishing sites for the weekend event include popular fishing spots As Matmos and Pona Point cliff sites. Registration is \$25. Derby orientation will

be at 5pm on Aug. 3 at the Guata Beach Park, followed by the start of the derby. The derby will end at 10am on Aug. 5, followed by an island-style awards banquet at 1pm at Teteto Beach.

“The Marianas Visitors Authority is pleased to again



be working with the Rota Mayor’s Office to welcome fishermen for our cliff fishing derby later this month,” said MVA Rota Field Operations supervisor Sandra Atalig.

“Last weekend was the Saipan International Fishing Tourna-

ment, and we invite all fishermen to join us later this month for another great event on Rota.”

Prizes will be awarded for the most variety, biggest fish, and for total weight. The MVA is providing cash prizes for the Top 3 finishers in the categories of biggest fish and total weight. “Sport fishing is a small but

important niche market for The Marianas, and it’s another prime example of how our rich natural resources are important for the tourism industry,” said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. “We would love to see more participants at this year’s Rota Cliff Fishing Derby, especially from the neighboring islands of Guam, Saipan, and Tinian, and we will continue to work with

the Rota Mayor’s Office to promote and grow this annual event.”

The weekend event is organized by the Rota Mayor’s Office with support from Rota Municipal Council, Rota Legislative Delegation, Department of Public Safety, Department of Fire & Emergency Services, Dept. of Public Works, Ambros Inc., and the MVA. **(PR)**

SAPONG

From Page 27

and Palau opened the hostilities in the sport.

The CNMI is in Pool A for the elimination round and will also meet Guam, Palau, and Kiribati. Pool B has the Marshall Islands, Kosrae, Chuuk, and host Yap.

The CNMI women’s basketball team also saw action yesterday and was scheduled to play the Marshall Islands in the 5pm match. Today, the Elias Rangamar-coached squad will go up against the host in the 3pm game. The CNMI is in Pool B, while Palau, Pohnpei, Chuuk, and defending champion Guam are in Group A.

Guam won the first medal in the Micro Games, courtesy of Ryan Matienzo, who ruled yesterday morning’s 10K run. Matienzo timed in at 36:16.32 in the 25-lap run

around the Yap Sports Complex oval to lead Guam’s 1-2 finish. His compatriot Benjamin Middlebrooke clocked in at 39:49.49, while Pohnpei’s Casey Henry rounded out the podium finish after checking in at 43:39.85. Palau’s Sheavon Emesiochel (43:44.70) and Pohnpei’s MJ Ioanis (45:14.67) were the other runners in the men’s 10K.

In the women’s division, Guam also took the gold after Genina Criss submitted 47:54.49 and beat Pohnpei’s Reloliza Saimon (49:01.58) and Palau’s Anaya Masang (50:04.31).

Baseball begins bid today

The Patrick Tenorio-managed baseball team will start its mission of regaining the gold medal the CNMI last won in 2006 when it takes on Kosrae in the 3pm match today at the Yap Sports Complex Baseball

Field.

The CNMI squad is made up of Lorenzo Sebaklim, Virgil Secharmidal, Nokki Saralu, Henry, Franklin, and A.J. Lizama, Ben Jones, Roy Celis, Nathan Camacho, Patrick Alepuyo, Franco Flores, Shane Yamada, Francisco Lieto, Patrick Tenorio Jr., Ton Tenorio, Angel Palacios, Tyrone Omar, and Joe Deleon Guerrero, and coaches Manny Sablan and Mike Cruz.

The Commonwealth players will be facing the Kosrae crew, who was scheduled to debut against Yap in last night’s main match. Pohnpei and Palau duelled in the other opening day game, while Yap will face the former in tonight’s second tiff.

Each squad will play four games in the elimination and only the Top 4 will advance to the playoffs. The CNMI is hoping to finish in the Top 2, as it will allow the team to win

shed tears on the field, fans at home celebrated in the thousands despite the loss.

“Overall, we’ve been better,” Lovren said, critical of the way France played. “They did it the other way. They didn’t play football. They waited for their chances and they scored. They had their own tactic and you need to respect that. They played the tournament like that every game.”

Croatia went down with

the same grit that had taken it through three extra-time matches, all won after conceding the opening goal. When Ivan Perisic scored in the 28th minute after Mario Mandzukic’s own-goal had given France the lead, Croatia looked ready to do it again.

Then came a penalty, called after a video review, which Antoine Griezmann converted.

Trailing 2-1, Croatia conceded two more goals but

toine Griezmann’s free kick that gave France an early lead in the final.

Germany’s title defense disintegrated in the group stage. Spain, in turmoil from the start, was sent home in the round of 16, signaling the end of the tiki-taka tactics behind the country’s title run in 2010. No longer is it all about keeping hold of the ball.

“The teams with the highest level of possession were all punished by fast forwards,” Deschamps said. “When you defend, you are guaranteed to have two or three opportunities on the counterattack.”

Croatia bulldozed its way into the final in a sure sign of the establishment being disrupted. The gritty resolve was always evident in the final. Even at 4-1, the Croats didn’t give up on their first shot at a major soccer title, but they finally ran out of steam after three straight extra-time matches.

“I have never lived through

such a World Cup,” Deschamps said. “There was a leveling at the top. And the small teams on paper arrived really well prepared athletically. My memory was that great football nations would have some difficulty and then they would grow stronger.”

Only France did, reasserting the World Cup’s status at the pinnacle of soccer over the increasingly-predictable club competitions across Europe. Even Russia, the lowest-ranked team at the tournament, managed to reach the quarterfinals.

“You have to believe it’s possible and many things have to fall into place,” Croatia coach Zlatko Dalic said after his country’s first final. “You have to follow those dreams and ambitions and then maybe one day it will come true.”

Maybe one day politicians will not try to hog the lime-light at a sporting event as they did at the Luzhniki Sta-

only one match to return to the finals. The CNMI played Guam in the 2014 finals in Pohnpei, and Palau in the 2010 gold medal game.

In other news, the CNMI men’s and women’s canoe teams had their time in the waters off the Yap Marina as they held practice sessions yesterday.

Canoe races will start tomorrow and will run until Thursday. A technical meeting is set for today.

In the medal-rich weightlifting, practice sessions have also started. Nine teams are entered in the men’s and six in the women’s. The CNMI has both men’s and women’s squads and is represented by Angel San Nicolas, Rodrigo Ada, Antonette Labausa, Joseph Tudela, and Bonny Cruz.

The weightlifting competition will be held on July 25 and 26 at the Yap Sports Complex’s main gym.

kept fighting. Mandzukic then took advantage of a goalkeeping error to make it 4-2, becoming the first player to score for both teams in a World Cup final.

“When you want to be the best then you need to win, simple as that,” said Lovren, who lost the Champions League final with Liverpool in May. “It’s not easy to accept that. It’s something that I will carry for my life.”

dium and across Russia. FIFA allowed one of the coveted seats to be given to Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir, who is accused of crimes against humanity and war crimes in Darfur. Another went to Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko, who has been described as Europe’s last dictator.

But there was some payback from Mother Nature. By delaying the trophy presentation, leaving Croatia’s despondent players waiting even longer to depart the field, the storm clouds gathered. The downpour soaked the dignitaries.

That shouldn’t be a problem when the World Cup heads to the desert nation of Qatar four years from now, when France will hope to defend its title and the smaller nations will have been given hope by Croatia.

“Talent is not sufficient,” Deschamps said before departing to rejoin the victory celebrations. “What makes the difference is psychological.”

NAMED

From Page 28

golia on July 26, and Chinese-Taipei on July 28.

From China, nine members of the U15 squad will head to the Philippines to join the CNMI U16 Boys National Team and participate in the Tuloy XO Cup that will run from July 31 to Aug. 5.

Altamirano, Taka Borja, Canape, Lubao, Mindanao, Miyawaki, Quimzon, Takahashi, and Toves will be reunited with Kirt Andon, Thaiph Austria, Ichiro Borja, kaden Church, Mark Esalan, Sebastien Manabat, Joshua Mendez, John Michael Rojas, Joshua Waldo, and Richard Waldo Jr. as they square off against five teams.

Mita will still call the shots for the U16 team and will also

VIVE

From Page 28

17-year-old Pele in 1958.

Vive la diversite!

A day after Bastille Day, the party was on.

“The diversity of the squad is in the image of this beautiful country that is France,” midfielder Blaise Matuidi, whose parents are from Angola and Congo, said through a translator ahead of the match.

France won on a humid night in Russia, with thunderclaps during play and a downpour during the trophy presentation. Quite different from that indelible summer evening at Stade de France in 1998, when fans in the arena and throughout Paris sang “La Marseillaise” until dawn and young teenagers drove cars while their intoxicated parents sat in passenger seats.

People called that team “Black, Blanc, Beur,” noting how black, white and North African players came together.

Zinedine Zidane, a son of Algerians, headed in a pair of first-half corner kicks against heavily favored Brazil. Patrick Vieira, born in Senegal, fed Normandy-born Emmanuel Petit for the third in the 3-0 win.

This year’s team was perhaps even more diverse.

Defender Samuel Umtiti was born in Cameroon and backup goalkeeper Steve Mandanda in Zaire. Others descended from Algeria, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco and Senegal, plus Germany, Italy, Portugal and Spain.

“There may be players who come from different origins,

but we do have the same state of mind,” Griezmann said. “We all play for the same jersey, the cockerel. For our country, we give everything we have. As soon as you wear the jersey, we do everything for each other.”

He scored the go-ahead goal after the first video review-created penalty kick in a World Cup final. During a delay of about four minutes that might have unnerved less-composed players, Griezmann told himself to pretend it was a league match.

“Carry on and do the same thing as I normally do,” he remembered thinking.

At 27, he is in his prime but in the penumbra of Spanish soccer powers at Atletico Madrid, toiling in a league that Barcelona and Real Madrid dominate. He led the 2016 European Championship with six goals and tied for second with four at the World Cup, three on penalty kicks, earning the Bronze Ball as third-best player behind Croatia midfielder Luka Modric and Belgium forward Eden Hazard.

Griezmann kissed the trophy, knowing his generation will be revered in the same way Zidane, Petit, Thierry Henry, Lilian Thuram and Fabien Barthez remain renowned from Calais to Cannes.

“From tonight on, I’m sorry for them, but they are going to be different,” coach Didier Deschamps said. “Those 23 players will be linked forever, forever. Whatever happens—they might follow different paths, but they will be marked forever and they will be together thanks to this event.”

CROATIA

From Page 28

needs to end.”

Among a crowd of men in dark suits on the World Cup podium, including Russian President Vladimir Putin and French counterpart Emmanuel Macron, Grabar-Kitarovic’s team shirt showed her passion for Croatia, a country of barely 4 million people.

While some of the players

FRANCE

From Page 28

defender, will be hot property in the upcoming transfer window. Raphael Varane has also been at the heart of the defense that didn’t concede a goal in four of seven games in Russia. The starring role by Paul Pogba, who scored the decisive third goal on Sunday, was a riposte to critics of his contribution at Manchester United.

“These kids, they play like it’s a pick-up game,” said 32-year-old France defender Adil Rami, who was on the bench for the entire tournament.

In so many ways, France lifting the trophy was one shred of order in this month of so much disruption. And it wasn’t just about the often-confusing use of video review on its World Cup debut. Set-pieces are back in vogue, accounting for 73 of the 169 goals, including Mario Mandzukic’s own-goal from An-



Sapong wins silver in 100m run

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sprinter Zarinae Sapong handed Team Marianas a silver medal, as competition in the 2018 Micronesian Games in Yap kicked off yesterday.

Sapong finished second in the 100m run, but her official time was unavailable at the Oceania Athletics Association website as of press time. Guam's Regina Tugade clinched the gold, while compatriot Shania Bulala bagged the bronze.

Meanwhile, besides fielding entries in athletics, the CNMI also competed in spearfishing and basketball (men's and women's).

The individual event of the spearfishing contest started yesterday morning with participants taking off from Yap Marina in Colonia. Robert Shansky Hubert is the CNMI's representative in the spearfishing competition and results of the individual event were unavailable at press time.

In athletics, Ron Olopai, Kelvin Fitia, and Tony Ichio joined the men's discus event that was scheduled to start at 4:30pm. Oceania Athletics Association has yet to post results of the men's discus along with the men's and women's 100m run races as of 8:30pm last night.

Jamie Pangelinan was the CNMI's other entry to the 100m qualifying heats, while Traven Quitugua and Gabriel Sappa raced in the same event in the men's divisions.

The women's javelin and long jump and 400m prelimi-



Team Marianas athletes and officials wave to the crowd during the opening ceremony for the 2018 Micronesian Games held last Sunday in Yap.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Members of the CNMI Men's National Canoe Team head out of the water after completing a practice session at the Yap Marina last Monday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

nary heats also took place in the opening day of the athletics competition.

In basketball, the CNMI

Men's National Team collided with Pohnpei, while Guam

See SAPONG on Page 26



The CNMI's Zarinae Sapong, left, joins two Guam runners at the podium during the medals presentation for the 100m run event in the 2018 Micronesian Games in Yap last night.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MICRO GAMES 2018 MORE THAN JUST GAMES				
MEDAL TALLY				
As of 7pm July 16, 2018				
	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Guam	4	2	1	7
Pohnpei	0	1	2	3
Palau	0	1	1	2
CNMI	0	1	0	1
Chuuk	0	0	0	0
Yap	0	0	0	0
Kosrae	0	0	0	0
Kiribati	0	0	0	0
RMI	0	0	0	0

EXPLORE YOUR WORLD



CNMI U15, U16 national squads named

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association has named the members of the CNMI boys U15 and U16 national teams that will be competing in separate off-island tournaments this month.

Selected to play for the CNMI U15 Boys National Team are midfielder Razeff Altamirano, Taka Borja, Ian Karl Maniango, Floyd Muna, Reginald Pascual, Brandon Tenorio, Merrick Toves, and John Joseph Villagomez, defenders John Ezekiel Canape, Brian Lubao, Daniel Mar Pablo, Rinto Takahashi, and Elijah Villarmero, forwards Oliver Fajardo and Rintaro Miyawaki, and goalkeepers Jonathan Minadanao, John Martin Palad, and Jason Quimzon.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the CNMI boys U15 and U16 teams are in action during an exhibition game at the opening of the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville early this month. Both squads will be playing in off-island tournaments this month.

The Michiteru Mita-coached U15 crew will be seeing action in the East Asian Football Federation U15 Boys Tournament in Xianghe, China from July 21 to 29. Completing the squad are assistant coach Jersh Angeles, goalkeeper coach Kwok Kei Poon, team manager Mikky Vargas, and team physiotherapist Hazel Mabasa.

In China, the Commonwealth bets are in Group A of the EAFF-sanctioned tournament and will be playing against the host, Japan, Chinese-Taipei, and Mongolia. The CNMI will also duel Group B's Macau, which is joined on the pool by South Korea, North Korea, Guam, and Hong Kong.

Mita's wards will challenge Macau first on July 23 and then face China on July 24, Japan on July 25, Mon-

See NAMED on Page 26



Hernandez hits
Dodgers' 129th HR
in win over Angels

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

Novak is back,
wins fourth
Wimbledon title

PAGE 25



28 TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2018

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

HISTORIC WORLD CUP ENDS

France victory a fitting climax



AP
France's Olivier Giroud holds the trophy after the final match between France and Croatia at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow, Russia, Sunday, July 15, 2018.

BY ROB HARRIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTER

MOSCOW—Kylian Mbappe high-fived a political protester who invaded the field during the World Cup final. French President Emmanuel Macron leapt out of his seat in a VVIP area that included a leader charged with genocide. And Vladimir Putin was drenched in a sudden downpour as the trophy was handed over to the victorious French team.

This year's World Cup was never going to be a refuge from politics when it was being staged in Putin's Russia, but the players did their best to keep the tournament for themselves.



FIFA WORLD CUP
RUSSIA 2018

A final with six goals—France beat Croatia 4-2 on Sunday—was a fitting climax to a month that produced some of the most enthralling matches in World Cup history.

The lasting images will be of pure elation as the France players leapt into the crowd to collect flags, then crashed Didier Deschamps' post-match news conference, dancing on the table and spraying champagne and water on the coach. "Sorry," Deschamps said. "They're young and they're happy."

No need to apologize. This young squad earned its right

to go wild.

Particularly Mbappe, a 19-year-old forward whose career trajectory should move into a stratosphere occupied for so long by Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi. The old guard went home early; another failed challenge for World Cup titles by Portugal and Argentina. Mbappe flies home with a winners' medal.

It's not just about his composure on the ball, and eye for goal. Just look at the coolness early in the second half dealing with a member of the Pussy Riot activist group which protests against what they consider to be Putin's repressive regime: A double-high five. Nothing fazes the guy who became the first teenager to score in a World Cup final since Pele in 1958.

"I've always been ready, mentally, to do beautiful

things," Mbappe said. "I'm free and, most of all, I enjoy it."

Not only Mbappe. Benjamin Pavard, a 22-year-old

See FRANCE on Page 26

Vive la France! And a lot of other nations, too

MOSCOW (AP)—Antoine Griezmann's father emigrated from Germany, and the France forward's mother is of Portuguese descent.

Paul Pogba's parents arrived from Guinea.

Kylian Mbappe's dad is from Cameroon, his mom Algerian.

Immigrants, sons of immigrants and grandsons of immigrants bonded together with scions of families that have been French for generations, all for the rouge, blanc

et bleu. And for only the second time, France is the World Cup champion.

About two-thirds of Les Bleus' roster included players with immigrant backgrounds, a mini-United Nations of soccer talent.

"That is the France that we love," Griezmann said through a translator after Sunday's 4-2 victory over Croatia ended the most exciting World Cup final in decades. "It's beautiful to see it."

Griezmann's free kick was

headed in by Mario Manduzkic for the opening own-goal in the 18th minute, and then Griezmann converted a penalty kick for a 2-1 lead in the 38th after video review spotted a handball by Ivan Perisic.

Mbappe's speed led to the third goal in the 59th. He added a goal of his own in the 65th, at 19 becoming the second-youngest scorer in a World Cup final behind

See VIVE on Page 26

Croatia fears World Cup chance may never come again

MOSCOW (AP)—The rain hid Croatia's tears.

After Luka Modric collected his Golden Ball award in a downpour, he shared an emotional embrace with Croatian President Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic, both wearing the country's red-and-white checkered uniform.

Croatia knows Sunday's 4-2 loss to France in the World Cup final was a chance that may not come again anytime soon.

AP
France's Lucas Hernandez tackles Croatia's Ante Rebic during the final match between France and Croatia at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow, Russia, Sunday, July 15, 2018.



"We were so close and we played the best soccer. We deserved more," said Modric, who at 32 may have played in his last World Cup match.

Croatia's first golden generation lost to France in the 1998 World Cup semifinals, and its second went one better. Besides Modric, goalkeeper Danijel Subasic will be 38 at the next World Cup in Qatar, midfielder Ivan Rakitic will be 34 and forward Mario Mandzukic will be 36.

"I wish we are now 24, everyone and Luka especially," Croatia defender Dejan Lovren said. "There is a time when something

See CROATIA on Page 26